

Japanese Are Shaken By Shooting Of Official

Leader of Investigation
Into Subway Poisoning
Is Left Seriously Hurt

By T. R. Reid
Washington Post Service

TOKYO — As the head of the national police force lay in a hospital with four bullet wounds, and the terrorists responsible for last week's subway gas attack remained at large Thursday, the people of Japan faced a frightening question: "What happened to our safe society?"

So asked the headline in the evening's edition of the Yomiuri Shimbun, Japan's biggest newspaper, as a nation that is accustomed to safety, civility, and peace in every neighborhood at any hour suddenly experienced its second shocking crime in 10 days.

Following their standard practice, the police said almost nothing about possible clues or suspects in the shooting Thursday of Takaji Kunimatsu, director general of the National Police Agency. Mr. Kunimatsu, was shot outside his apartment building about 8:30 A.M. by a masked man who rode up on bicycle, fired at least four times, and raced away in a misty morning rain.

Mr. Kunimatsu, 57, was reported in stable condition Thursday night. As the head of National Police Agency, he had been in charge of the nationwide investigation into the terrorist gas attack on the Tokyo subway on March 20 that killed 10 people and injured about 5,000.

Mr. Kunimatsu's investigators have focused on a secretive cult named Aum Shin-rikyo, led by a bearded Buddhist guru named Shoko Asahara, whose meandering and often wildly illogical writings overflow with fear and hatred of the National Police Agency.

The police would not discuss any connection between the two crimes. The Aum sect denied any responsibility for either one.

But other analysts were less reluctant. "At the very moment the police are carving open the deepest secrets of the poisoning case, the top officer of the police was shot," said a crime expert, Yukio Akasaka. "Naturally you can see a connection there."

The ownership of guns is essentially banned in Japan. Members of the organized crime network, the yakuza, are known to traffic in smuggled guns, and normally any shooting here prompts suspicion of these gangsters.

But attacking the national police chief is not their style, and analysts said it was unlikely that the yakuza was responsible for the shooting.

According to news reports, the police investigation has turned up an enormous amount of evidence linking the Aum cult to the nerve gas that was used in the subway killings.

Former cult members say they were taught that any necessary measure was acceptable to protect the cult and its leader, Mr. Asahara, who styled himself the "See JAPAN, Page 4"



AFRICAN EXODUS — A Rwandan girl carrying her newborn sister fleeing Thursday from a camp in Ngozi Province, Burundi, with other refugees headed toward Tanzania. The Hutu refugees feared being attacked. Page 12.

Pope Condemns a 'Culture of Death'

Resist Abortion and Euthanasia, Encyclical Strongly Urges

By Celestine Bohlen
New York Times Service

ROME — In an encyclical warning of the rise of a "culture of death" in modern society, Pope John Paul II used his strongest language ever on Thursday to condemn abortion and euthanasia, which he said were "crimes which no human law can claim to legitimize."

And in a significant shift from previous Roman Catholic Church doctrine, he adopted a stronger line against capital punishment, which he said should be used only in "cases of absolute necessity," which are "extremely rare, if not practically nonexistent."

The encyclical on the Gospel of Life calls on Christians to exercise their "clear and grave obligation" to resist laws that permit the "killing of an innocent human being whether a fetus or an embryo, an infant or an adult, an old person, or one suffering from an incurable disease or a person who is dying."

In his 189-page document dedicated to moral questions of human life, the Pope upheld the church's ban on contraception and condemned experimentation with human embryos.

On the issue of abortion and euthanasia, the encyclical letter reaffirms the church's well-known positions, but casts them in new and solemn language that stops short of infallible dogma, invoking the authority

vested in St. Peter and his successors and the consistent tradition of the church's teaching.

Furthermore, the Pope takes his case for a binding morality into the political arena, chastising democracies for denying "the original inalienable right to life" on the basis of the will of the majority.

"In this way democracy, contradicting its own principles, effectively moves towards a form of totalitarianism," the Pope said. "That state is no longer the 'common home' where all can come together on the basis of principles of fundamental equality, but is transformed into a tyrant state, which arrogates to itself the right to dis-

See LIFE, Page 12

Stock Markets Cheer German Rate Cuts

Bundesbank Lowers 2 Key Charges,
Surprising European Exchanges

By Brandon Mitchener
International Herald Tribune

FRANKFURT — Responding to a rocketing Deutsche mark, a sluggish economy and slower growth in the German money supply, the Bundesbank sent European securities markets soaring Thursday with unexpected reductions in two of its three main interest rates.

Germany's move was welcomed as a remedy for ailing economies and currencies all across Europe, where rates have been kept high to defend currencies against the mark.

It allowed other countries in what is considered the mark bloc room to immediately reduce their own interest rates. Lower rates encourage investment that bolsters business and stimulates economies.

The monetary easing, the first in almost a year, immediately strengthened the dollar and the feeble European currencies and resurrected the possibility of another German interest rate reduction before the cost of borrowing turns higher, probably later this year. The dollar rose more than 2 pence against the mark. (Page 14)

The London and Paris stock markets applauded the cuts, while the New York Stock Exchange rose 11.76 points, to close at 4,172.56.

"The moves in currency markets reflect much more scope for further easing," Joseph Prendergast of Banque Paribas in London said. "It puts two-way interest rate risk in Germany back in the market."

The fiercely independent German central bank lowered its discount rate, the lowest rate on loans to banks, to 4.0 percent, from 4.5 percent. It also announced that its next allocation of fixed-rate securities repurchase agreements, a key short-term rate, would take place at 4.5 percent, rather than 4.85 percent, followed by floating rate "repos."

The discount rate had been unchanged since May, and the repo rate unchanged since July. Markets had held out hope for cheaper repos but were caught off guard by the Bundesbank's decision to lower its discount rate as well. Now that it has, there is even more room for repo rates to fall.

Just after the Bundesbank announced its move, the Swiss National Bank cut its

discount rate by 50 basis points, to 3.0 percent. Werner Abegg, a spokesman for the Swiss central bank, said that the cut was coordinated with the Bundesbank and that part of the reason was concern about the weak dollar. Knight-Ridder reported from Zurich.

Later, the Netherlands, Belgium and Austria also cut interest rates.

The German central bank, however, described its decisions in purely domestic terms, as usual.

"With this decision the Bundesbank takes account of the persistently weak development of the money supply as well as changes in the monetary environment," it said. It termed growth in the German M3 money supply "considerably below the target corridor set for 1995."

While taking pains to dispel any perception that it was bowing to pressure from raucous foreign exchange markets, the Bundesbank said the mark's current strength helped make its decision easier.

"The appreciation of the mark should form a considerable counterweight to domestic inflation as well as to the rising prices of imported raw materials and industrial products," it said.

Economists said German inflation this year would average about 2 percent, the Bundesbank's off-stated goal.

The overall state of the German economy played a decisive role in the Bundesbank's decision.

Richard Reid, chief German economist at UBS Phillips & Drew in Frankfurt, said the shallowness of Germany's recovery from its recent recession was an unspoken reason behind the Bundesbank's move.

"The economy is slowing down," he said. "Although there will be some cyclical inflation toward the end of the year, it will be a very slow growth cycle."

Dresdner Bank AG, in a statement, agreed: "The Bundesbank showed that the economic situation plays an important role in decisions as long as price stability is not endangered."

As European stocks rose, the International Herald Tribune World Stock Index's Europe index fell 0.26 percent, to 102.45 from 102.63. The decline was in part due to the effect of the dollar's rise after the rate cut.

Though Beloved by Candidates, Term Limits Fail in the House

By Katharine Q. Seelye
New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — After months of oratory about the evils of career politicians, the House of Representatives has voted squarely against American sentiment and rejected four proposals that would have limited the number of terms its members could serve.

The votes were the first ever to be held on a constitutional amendment on congressional term limits — a bad idea, acknowledged some of its reluctant supporters, but one whose time had come.

Still, all four measures failed, making term limits the first item in the Republicans' "Contract With America" to go down to defeat in the House.

Among voters, a constitutional amendment for term limits was perhaps the most popular item, along with a balanced-budget amendment, in the Republican's 10-item contract. Up to 80 percent of Americans support term limits, surveys say.

Since 1990, 22 states have passed term limits for their members of Congress. The Supreme Court is to rule soon on whether states violate the Constitution when they set limits for federal office.

While Republicans generally supported the measures, in public, and Democrats generally opposed them, the sharper divisions ran along generational lines. Newer members were eager to place the hide-bound careerism in Congress while senior members asserted that there was no substitute for experience.

Democrats said the proposals were doomed from the start because Republicans did not want to cut short their time in Washington any more than Democrats did.

Indeed, the most stirring denunciation of the concept of term limits came from a prominent Republican, Henry Hyde of Illinois, chairman of the Judiciary Committee, who commanded the well of the House chamber for nearly 15 minutes on Wednesday night. "I just can't be an accessory to the dumbing down of democracy," said Mr. Hyde, who was first elected in 1974.

Mr. Hyde extolled the value of experience, lamented "this corrosive attack on the consent of the governed" and urged his colleagues not to yield "to the

angry, pessimistic populism that drives this movement."

His speech drew standing ovations from both sides of the aisle — and consigned those who spoke after him to near oblivion.

A Democrat, Representative Bill Richardson of New Mexico, succinctly summarized the core of the opposition. "We've already got term limits," he said. "They're called elections."

Democrats also contended that the Republican leadership had organized the votes in such a way to guarantee their failure.

The first measure to lose Wednesday night would See CONGRESS, Page 12

Turks Launch New Assault, But Seek to Reassure West

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

TUNCELI, Turkey — Up to 15,000 Turkish troops poured into Tunceli Province in an offensive against Kurdish guerrillas on the same scale as the drive against rebels in northern Iraq, army officials said Thursday.

Convoys of military vehicles blocked the roads in and around the eastern province for an expected assault on strongholds of the Kurdish Workers Party, or PKK, there. "This is going to be like the north Iraq offensive," a military official said.

Turkey is facing mounting Western pressure to halt the operation amid fears for civilians caught in the invasion. Germany has imposed an arms embargo, and the United States has lately adopted a harsher tone.

The Red Cross said Turkey had violated the Geneva Conventions by refusing to allow Red Cross officials into the military theater to check on civilians.

Troops, including airborne units and special forces, backed by long-range artillery have been converging on the province from other parts of the country for the last three days.

Security officials reported clashes taking place in the Munzur Mountains on the border between Tunceli and Erzurum Province. It was unclear if this was part of the new offensive.

The total number of soldiers posted in Tunceli may reach more than 30,000, they said. About 35,000 troops have been hunting the PKK in northern Iraq since March 20.

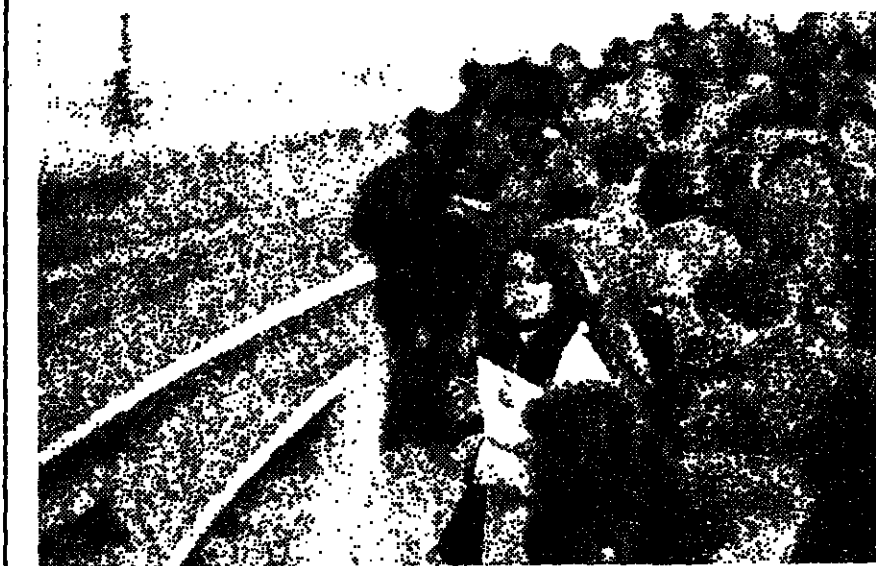
Troops arriving in Tunceli and those already there have begun to wear red-and-white umbrellas, as have Turkish soldiers in northern Iraq, to indicate that they are on a war footing.

The guerrillas, ensconced in mountains towering to more than 3,000 meters (10,000 feet), ambushed a military convoy in Tunceli on March 18, killing 18 soldiers. The rebels are believed to number up to 3,000 in Tunceli and about 2,500 in Iraq. More than 15,000 people have been killed in the Kurdish Workers Party's decade-old separatist campaign.

The Turkish government, meanwhile, launched a diplomatic offensive on Thursday, announcing that its foreign minister would go to the United States and Europe to ease concerns about the assault on the Kurds.

"I will from next week travel to Germany, the United States and France for talks with authorities to clear up misunderstandings," Foreign Minister Erdal Inonu said at a news conference in Ankara.

In a statement, the Turkish Foreign Ministry accused Germany, a NATO ally, of breaking the spirit of their defense alliance. (Reuters, AFP)



STRIKEBOUND — Crowds of commuters at Gare St-Lazare in Paris on Thursday waiting for trains, which were scarce, as French public transport workers staged a daylong strike. Air service was also disrupted. Page 2.

Sidelight to the JFK Murder: Castro's 3-Killer Theory

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Fidel Castro ran his own tests to determine whether it was possible for one man using a rifle with a telescopic sight to have killed President John F. Kennedy, according to FBI documents released Thursday.

Based on the findings, Mr. Castro speculated that "it took about three people" to do the deed. This information was included in a letter dated June 17, 1964, from the FBI director, J. Edgar Hoover, to J. Lee Rankin, general counsel for the presidential commission that investigated the assassination.

Mr. Hoover said that the Cuban leader also recounted that, when Lee Harvey Oswald was refused a visa at the Cuban Embassy in Mexico City several weeks before the assassination, he left saying, "I'm going to kill Kennedy for this."

The letter was among 10,228 pages of previously secret

documents related to Mr. Kennedy's assassination that were released under a special 1992 law.

The existence of this Hoover letter and some of its contents have been known since the mid-1970s. But it was the first time the paragraphs recounting Mr. Castro's statements had been made public.

The letter was based on information gleaned by an FBI informant in Cuba; his name was not included in the letter.

"Castro is said to have expressed the conclusion that Oswald could not have fired three times in succession and hit the target with the telescopic sight in the available time, that he would have needed two other men in order for the three shots to have been fired in the time interval," Mr. Hoover wrote.

"The source commented that on the basis of Castro's remarks, it was clear that his beliefs were based on theory as a result of Cuban experiments and not on any firsthand information in Castro's possession."

Cuba has long maintained that Mr. Kennedy was assassinated by the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency.

The FBI's own tests determined that three shots could have been fired by one person within the five to six seconds it took. The Warren Commission concluded in 1964 that Mr. Oswald, acting alone, killed the president. Since then, numerous conspiracy theories have surfaced, revolving around whether Mr. Oswald was the lone gunman and, if he was, whether he might have been acting at the behest of the CIA, the FBI or organized crime.

The documents released Thursday examined whether Mr. Oswald had connections to the Cuban or Soviet governments. In one of them, Soviet officials acknowledged that Mr. Oswald had defected to the Soviet Union, but said that he was never given citizenship.

Soviet officials also believed that the assassination was not the work of one person, and they believed that Mr. Oswald was under the influence of "ultra-right" elements.

AGENDA

No Change in UN Sanctions on Libya

UNITED NATIONS, New York (Reuters) — The Security Council made no changes Thursday in sanctions imposed on Libya for failing to surrender for trial in Britain or the United States the two men wanted in connection with the 1988 bombing of a jet over Locker-

bie, Scotland, a council source said. There was no immediate move to add an embargo on Libyan oil, which the United States had sought. Existing sanctions include an air embargo, a ban on the sale or transfer of arms to Libya and the downgrading of diplomatic links.

Ukraine's Jewish Revival

CLA Funded Guatemala

Yeltsin Raises New Doubts

A Role Reversal for U.S.

Japan's Cool Deregulation

Optimism Page 8, Sports Pages 20, 21, Books Page 7, Crossword Page 21.

International Classified Page 4.

Newstand Prices	
Andorra	9.00 FF
Antilles	1.20 FF
Cameroon	1.400 CFA
Egypt	9.00 FF
France	9.00 FF
Gabon	9.00 CFA
Greece	350 Dr.
Ireland	2.500 Lira
Italy	1.120 CFA
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Lebanon	1.50 U.S. M.
Luxembourg	60 L.
Morocco	12 Dr.
Qatar	8.00 Rials
Reunion	11.20 FF
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Senegal	960 CFA
Spain	225 Ptas
Tunisia	1,000 Din
Turkey	1.45,000 Lira
U.A.E.	8.50 Dirh
U.S.M.	\$1.10

Dow Jones	
Up	11.07
Down	4171.57
The Dollar	1.4065
DM	1.804
Pound	89.61
Yen	4.913
Trib Index	
Down	0.41%
114.19	114.19
Previous Close	1.3625
1.6117	1.6117
88.40	88.40
4.8795	4.8795

A Faith Reborn/Community Re-emerges

Ukraine's Jewish Revival
Once-Shattered Culture and Religion ThriveBy James Rupert
Washington Post Service

KIEV — On a quiet side street, Leonid Rabinovich, 68, sat in the courtyard of a small, brick synagogue selling Jewish religious articles to supplement his monthly pension.

The yarmulkes sell fairly easily, he said, his handmade menorahs not so well. But what really keeps him busy these days is directing the steady flow of Jews who walk through the gate to join what is a brisk revival of Jewish life in Ukraine.

"They want to know which days Passover falls on, how to put their children into Jewish schools, where to study Hebrew and how to find matzo," Mr. Rabinovich said.

Wrapped in a threadbare wool coat and a thick wool hat against snow flurries and Kiev's chilly air, he directs them to offices and bulletin boards and gives them telephone numbers.

Ukrainian Jews, who 100 years ago dominated this country's cities and were influential in Judaism worldwide, were shattered this century by pogroms, the Holocaust and decades of Soviet oppression. But three years after the Soviet Union's collapse, synagogues, Jewish schools and social programs are sprouting again in Kiev, Lviv, Odessa and other cities.

A few years ago, hundreds of thousands of Ukrainian Jews sought only to emigrate and abandon their centuries-old homeland, fearing that state oppression and institutional anti-Semitism could never be changed. But in the new, independent Ukraine, many Jews say, it has become possible to rebuild the Jewish religion and culture.

In synagogues, schools and homes in Kiev and the western city of Lviv, the Jewish revival has the urgent, chaotic look of a mission. It is driven in part by money and volunteers from Jews in Europe, the United States and Israel. There are a handful of energetic rabbis and their wives, many of them from Brooklyn.

In Lviv, Rabbi Mordechai Bald and his wife, Sara, both in their 20s, follow an exhausting schedule, overseeing repairs to the synagogue, teaching classes at new schools and organizing the distribution of food, medicine and clothing sent from the United States. Rabbi Bald met a visitor in a cramped, busy office, explaining, "My office is stacked up with boxes of clothes. I can't even get in there."

EARLY in this century, Lviv, like other Ukrainian cities, was a largely Jewish metropolis renowned in worldwide Judaism as a cradle of the Orthodox Hasidic movement.

There were 300,000 people in Lviv, and a third to a half of them were Jewish, said Rabbi Bald. With 38 synagogues, he added, the city "had some of the greatest rabbis and centers for learning."

Ukraine also provided a significant flow of Jewish emigrants to the United States beginning in the late 19th century.

Ukrainians and Russians killed tens of

thousands of Jews in pogroms in 1919 and 1920. And in World War II, invading Nazi troops killed hundreds of thousands of Jews; Ukrainian government estimates put the death toll as high as 1.2 million. After the war, Josef Stalin tightened restrictions on all religions and repressed Jewish culture.

For decades, only a token synagogue operated in Kiev. In Lviv, "all the synagogues were destroyed except this one," Rabbi Bald said, showing a three-story sanctuary with elaborate murals depicting Hebrew-inscribed tablets of the Ten Commandments guarded by lions and griffins.

He said the Soviets had used it as "a warehouse and a stable."

Tens of thousands of Jews emigrated. Others acquiesced to the pressure and were assimilated into Soviet-designed culture, in which Russian was the language and there was no belief in God.

"There were two generations who had to all but forgo religion," said Meir Roberg, a British rabbi teaching at a Jewish primary school in Kiev. "The Soviet Union almost finished what Hitler could not — the elimination of Jewish religion and culture here."

BUT while Ukraine's Jews were among the most numerous victims of Nazi and Soviet anti-Semitism, they are also among the most numerous survivors. Jewish leaders estimate that 500,000 to 600,000 Jews remain in Ukraine, making it the world's fifth-largest Jewish population, according to Ukraine's chief rabbi, Yaakov Bleich.

Emigration continues. Amid Ukraine's post-Soviet economic depression, "many Jews are leaving for the same reason other Ukrainians do," said Rabbi Roberg. "They want better jobs, a more healthy life."

But emigration is no longer the only choice for those hoping to practice Judaism.

"We have all the institutions of Jewish communal life," said Rudolf Mirsky, a Jewish professor of political science at Lviv Polytechnic University.

"We cannot hope to rebuild the great center of Hasidic Judaism that this once was," Rabbi Roberg said, "but we think there can be a thriving Jewish community in Ukraine."

In 1989, "we had 12 synagogues," said Rabbi Bleich. "Now we have more than 50."

He said Ukraine's main cities now supported 13 Jewish primary and high schools, plus yeshivas for religious study and, in Kiev, a small university.

He said that there also were programs to care for the elderly in Kiev.

Rabbi Bleich credited the three-year-old Ukrainian government with facilitating the revival, partly by handing back the properties of Jewish institutions seized by the Soviets. President Leonid Kuchma and his predecessor, Leonid M. Kravchuk, have condemned anti-Semitic attitudes — evident, for example, in rightist newspaper articles and leaflets — that have remained from the old days.

"Ukraine has the best human-rights record in the former Soviet Union," Rabbi Bleich said, adding that its policy toward Jews and other minorities was "very, very positive."



Ukrainian youths chanting a prayer after lunch at a Jewish school for boys in Kiev.

"The best change is that we can take pride as Jews," said an elderly Jewish woman in the courtyard of Kiev's synagogue. "Now our young men can walk on the street wearing yarmulkes if they like, and nobody harasses them."

"For years, officialdom prevented you from rising too far in your profession if you were Jewish," said Inna Grossman, a Jewish teacher in Kiev. "Now, I don't feel that any more."

At Kiev's School No. 299, the energy of the revival was palpable last week. The cafeteria seemed to tremble with the storm of young voices, as scores of Jewish boys chanted prayers after lunch. Students' drawings of biblical scenes and Hebrew-language posters brightened the hallways.

Jewish families are retrieving their identities through their children.

"Parents who know nothing of Judaism except that it was the religion of their parents are sending their children to the schools — and then the children are carrying the religion back home," said Rabbi Velvel Tabak, a New Yorker working in Kiev.

WHILE all life in impoverished Ukraine is difficult these days, it remains especially so for Jews trying to maintain kosher practices. Last Friday morning, about 50 Jews, mostly elderly pensioners, chatted in the parking lot of Kiev's synagogue as they waited for its regular distribution of food aid.

In Kiev, "you could find anything kosher you wanted, years ago," one elderly man said. But the Soviet authorities closed the kosher

butchers and other shops, replacing them with huge markets and state stores that ignored Jewish traditions.

Now, a bakery at the synagogue produces more than a ton of matzo daily for Jews in Ukraine and other former Soviet republics. At a side door, a Yiddish-speaking butcher sells kosher meat and chicken.

A continuing difficulty for Ukraine's Jews is anti-Semitism. In Lviv, a center of Ukrainian nationalism, Jews have received letters telling them they should leave. This month, when thousands of Jews gathered at a large hall in Odessa for the traditional Paskim festival, an anonymous caller telephoned with a bomb threat, interrupting the festivities.

But each of 20 Jews interviewed for this article described such acts as committed by a marginalized few. Several noted that anti-Semitism in Ukraine had no prominent spokesmen analogous to those in Russia, such as the nationalist politician Vladimir V. Zhirinovskiy or Metropolitan Ioann, the Russian Orthodox primate of St. Petersburg.

"Anti-Semitism is everywhere in the world," said Mr. Mirsky, the Lviv professor. "There are fewer actual attacks against us than we hear about from the States."

He suggested, as did others, that the psychological burden of anti-Semitism in Ukraine was that memories of the recent past continue to feed a fear "of what is possible."

"If Ukraine falls into economic chaos," said Alexander Gurevich, a Jewish journalist in Lviv, "the Jews fear what could be stirred up against them."

Rail and Bus Strikes
Create Paris Jams
Air Inter Flights Disrupted

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

PARIS — Automobile traffic was nearly at a standstill on highways leading to Paris, nearly half the city's Metro lines were closed and trains were scarce as transportation workers went on a daylong strike Thursday.

The state railroad company SNCF said that just one train in four was running on main lines and that suburban services were curtailed.

Only the Channel Tunnel Eurostar service and the Paris-Lausanne high-speed train line were running normally.

At Orly airport, south of Paris, 1,000 workers at Air Inter, the state-run domestic airline, on strike since March 12, demonstrated with colleagues from Air France.

At one point, the airport strikers briefly interrupted preparations for two Air Inter flights, pulling the plug on electrical feeds to the planes, according to union workers.

The strikers, who later dispersed peacefully, stayed away from the runways to avoid confrontations with riot policemen posted throughout the area.

Air Inter used outside carriers to assure half of its 400 scheduled flights for the day.

It was gridlock in the city as public transportation users resorted to their cars or foot-power during the morning rush hour.

On the highways leading into Paris, traffic jams were mea-

sured at from 14 to 21 kilometers (9 to 13 miles) long.

On the beltway around the city, traffic jams stretched to 28 kilometers.

Six of the 13 Paris Metro lines were shut down by strikers. Lines open were running at a rate of about 30 percent or less. City buses were running at a rate of 30 to 40 percent.

The strikes began at 8 P.M. Wednesday and are to continue through 8 A.M. Friday.

Such strikes are unusual during a political campaign period in France, which will elect a new president in two rounds of voting on April 23 and May 7.

"It is normal that the French want to improve their lot," Prime Edouard Balladur, a leading conservative candidate, said Wednesday night of the strikes. But he added that the striking workers must "be careful not to break the machine."

The Socialist candidate, Lionel Jospin, and the Communist candidate, Robert Hue, backed the strikers, saying that workers should share in an improving economy.

In most cases, strikers are seeking improved wages. Rail-road workers are also protesting austerity cuts. Their action comes as the railroad authority prepares to negotiate a new five-year plan, a task that will fall to the new government.

At Air Inter, workers are opposed to streamlining forced by European Union deregulation. (AP, Reuters)

TRAVEL UPDATE

Americans to Be Polled on Travel

WASHINGTON (AP) — The U.S. Census Bureau will carry out a survey of American travel starting in late April. The Transportation Department is sponsoring the project in hopes of learning where new construction is most needed, what technology might improve travel, where pollution is most likely to be a problem, and how to cut energy costs and improve safety.

It will be the first government travel survey since 1977. The effort will involve 50,000 households.

The bureau will ask about any trips of 75 miles (120 kilometers) or more, including the means of transportation, the number of people on the trip, the reason for the trip, the kinds of lodging used and the stops along the way.

Unions at Italy's state-run airline Alitalia said they would strike Monday to protest the carrier's restructuring plans. The strike would probably force the cancellation of most Alitalia flights, except those on some heavily traveled routes. (AP)

The State Department has warned Americans traveling in the Dominican Republic about a potential for violence in the capital, Santo Domingo, because of protests over large fare increases on public transport. (Reuters)

Herald Tribune

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Senator Seeks a Niche in His Quest for the White House

By Richard L. Berke
New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — For Senator Arlen Specter, it seemed like just the right formula for winning the Republican nomination for president: He would stand out as the only Republican contender to take on what he called "the extreme fringe" of religious conservatives who he fears are commandeering the party.

But so far, Mr. Specter's campaign, which he made official on Thursday, has had the air of an ill-fated protest candidacy, and that is how it is regarded by many leading Republicans.

"There's no reason why anybody would particularly want to support Specter," said David A. Keene, a strategist for Senator Bob Dole in 1988. "He starts with the need to invent a niche for himself."

As other Republican contenders position themselves ever farther to the right, the inevitable question is whether the conservatives who dominate the voting in Republican primaries have any interest in a for-

mer district attorney from Philadelphia who aggressively advocates abortion rights and picks fights with the Christian Coalition.

And that is only part of the problem for Mr. Specter, 65. Beyond the questions about his ideology, it does not help that he has the sometimes off-putting personality of a combatant, or that as a Jew he does not share some beliefs of Christian conservatives, who are an increasingly visible force.

Mr. Specter has been elected three times to the Senate from the fifth-largest state. He knows how to raise millions of dollars for his campaigns. And he is tireless on the stump. Still, his quest for legitimacy has been made only more arduous by Governor Pete Wilson of California, who has all but announced his decision to enter the race.

Like Mr. Specter, Mr. Wilson favors abortion rights. But unlike Mr. Specter, his candidacy is taken seriously if for no other reason than because he governs the largest state and has staked out hard-line positions on immigration and crime.

So, struggling for traction, Mr. Specter has in recent days upended the fundamental premise of his campaign: He now plays up his record on crime and foreign policy and his proposal earlier this month to scrap the federal income tax system for a 20 percent flat tax.

Conceding in an interview

that his was an uphill battle, Mr. Specter said of his critics: "People think that somebody who's pro-choice and is a centrist will have such a difficult time with the Republicans who attended the Houston convention. But I think we've made some progress."

Yet Mr. Specter's sometimes shifting positions have come at a cost. In 1987, he angered conservatives by playing a pivotal role in sinking Robert Bork's nomination to the Supreme Court. Then he offended many moderates by his role as chief interrogator of Anita F. Hill, who had accused the Supreme Court nominee Clarence Thomas of sexual harassment.

While people respect him for his intellect, Mr. Specter can have a hard time making amends because of an abrasive style that he fine-tuned during two terms as district attorney of Philadelphia.

Still, Mr. Specter is regarded as an equal-opportunity combatant.

"I've seen him tear lobbyists apart who have given tons of money to his campaigns," said Tom Dahdouh, a staff counsel to Mr. Specter during the Hill-Thomas hearings.

"He's a brilliant thinker," he added. "But there's a time to turn off the prosecutor, and he never really learned that."

Roger Stone, a Washington lobbyist who is Mr. Specter's chief strategist, insisted that the senator's manner had little to do with his political viability.

"If personality were the prerequisite, we never would have nominated Richard Nixon,"

said Mr. Stone, who was a close adviser to the late president.

More so than personality, Mr. Stone said, Mr. Specter's religion might be a handicap.

But the biggest immediate problem looming for Mr. Specter is settling on a message. Last year, as religious conservatives were making inroads in Republican groups around the country, Mr. Specter deliberately thrust himself into the fray.

"My biggest fear," he said, "is that they spread intolerance and divisiveness — there's a lot of bigotry that underlies what they're doing. This country was founded on religious freedom, and my father came here to escape persecution from the Catholics."

In a recent memorandum, Mr. Stone laid out Mr. Specter's game plan: "A fiscally conser-

vative, socially moderate candidate can win Republican primaries in Iowa and New Hampshire with less than a majority in a multicandidate field."

But with Mr. Wilson in the equation, Mr. Specter now puts forth a drastically different explanation for his candidacy.

"I'm running because I've got the ideas and the experience and the energy to provide leadership for America going into the 21st century," he said.

Then he ticked off a list of credentials as a fiscal conservative, from his expertise on crime to his flat tax proposal to his new chairmanship of the Intelligence Committee. Almost as an afterthought, he mentioned abortion and religious conservatives.

Mexico Rebels Seek Talks, but Officials Are Wary

By Tim Golden
New York Times Service

MEXICO CITY — In their first concrete proposal for new peace talks with the government, rebels in the southern state of Chiapas have called for a wide-ranging discussion to be held in Mexico City.

Arguing that the army's occupation of the territory they once held in Chiapas made talks there impossible, the rebels suggested in a communiqué dated March 24 that the two sides meet along with other political groups in the capital.

The government did not immediately respond to the offer. But privately, two officials described the terms laid out by the rebel Zapatista National Liberation Army as the stuff of a publicity stunt, and said they were almost certain to be rejected.

"It is as concrete as they have ever gotten," one official said of the proposal. But, he added, "most of it is unacceptable."

Government and rebel representatives met for several hours on Jan. 15, but they have not held any substantive negotiations since talks in the Chiapas city of San Cristóbal de las Casas ended more than a

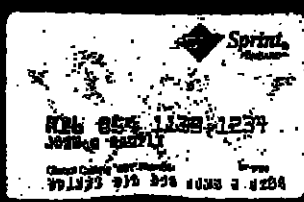
year ago, shortly after the uprising began.

Political tensions in Chiapas have continued to rise in recent days, as more than a half-dozen people have been killed in clashes that have set landholders and governing-party militants against leftist political groups and landless peasants.


The rebel group has demanded the withdrawal of thousands of army troops that poured into the remote area it controlled until early February.

The Zapatistas fled ahead of the army's advance, and they have been holding out since with thousands of their supporters in remote areas of the rain forest.

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Austria	0043-1-4777	Si Salvador	0046-4777	Kazakhstan	007-777	Poland	0048-22-111	United Arab Emirates	00971-4-4477
Bahamas	1-800-399-2111	St. Kitts	1-800-477-4000	Kazakhstan	007-777	Portugal	00351-21-277	United Kingdom (London)	0044-20-4477
Bahrain	966-777	St. Lucia	1-800-477-4000	Kazakhstan	007-777	Puerto Rico	001-787-4000	United Kingdom (other)	0044-18-4477
Belize	1-800-577-8000	St. Vincent	1-800-477-4000	Kazakhstan	007-777	Reunion	154-4122	Vietnam	800-1111-0
Bermuda	0080-1004	Trinidad	1-800-477-4000	Kazakhstan	007-777	Russia (Moscow)	800-111-4123		
Bhutan	0000-3333	Turkey	0090-312-4477	Kazakhstan	007-777	Saudi Arabia	223-2233		
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Brazil	0055-11-2222	Ukraine	8-100-15	Kazakhstan	007-777	South Africa	0027-11-1111		
British Virgin Islands	1-800-577-8000	Ukraine	8-100-15	Kazakhstan	007-777	Spain	0034-91-1111		
Bulgaria	00359-1010	Ukraine	8-100-15	Kazakhstan	007-777	Sweden	0046-8-1111		
Canada	1-800-877-4000	Ukraine	8-100-15	Kazakhstan	007-777	Switzerland	0041-1-1111		
Chile	0056-2-2222	Ukraine	8-100-15	Kazakhstan	007-777	Taiwan	00886-2-2677		
China	0086-10-1010	Ukraine	8-100-15	Kazakhstan	007-777	Thailand	0066-2-2677		
Colombia	0057-1-2222	Ukraine	8-100-15	Kazakhstan	007-777	Turkey	0090-312-4477		
Cuba	0053-7-7777	Ukraine	8-100-15	Kazakhstan	007-777	Ukraine	8-100-15		
Czechia	0042-2-2222	Ukraine	8-100-15	Kazakhstan	007-777	Ukraine	8-100-15		
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THE AMERICAS

ECONOMIC CONFERENCE OF THE PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT



MONEY TALKS — President Bill Clinton listening to business owners at an economic conference in Atlanta, one of four such seminars organized by the White House this year.

POLITICAL NOTES

Heflin Won't Seek 4th Term

WASHINGTON — Senator Howell Heflin, Democrat of Alabama, has said he will not seek re-election to a fourth term next year, dealing another blow to Democratic hopes of winning back control of the Senate in the 1996 elections.

Mr. Heflin, 73, is the fourth Democrat — all from politically competitive states — to announce plans to step down next year, compared with one announced retiree among the Republicans. While Alabama is a traditionally Democratic state, Mr. Heflin's Senate colleague, Senator Richard C. Shelby, abandoned the Democratic Party and became a Republican after elections last year. Republicans can be expected to make a strong bid to pick up Mr. Heflin's seat.

A rumpled, bear-like figure with perhaps the slowest drawl in the Senate, Mr. Heflin — hailed as a "son of the Old South" by one colleague — announced his impending departure in a speech to the Senate on Wednesday. (WP)

Calls for Controls on D.C.

WASHINGTON — A congressional panel recommended Wednesday that the strictest financial controls ever devised for a U.S. city be imposed on the District of Columbia, a step that members said was needed to rehabilitate the "tarnished" image of the nation's capital.

In a unanimous vote, the House District subcommittee moved to create a presidentially appointed board to reorder the district's finances and restructure its government. The bill also calls for a new chief financial officer, who Mayor Marion S. Barry said would have more "responsibility" over the government than he does.

Dole's 'Front-Runner' Tag

WASHINGTON — Most presidential candidates shy away from the "front-runner" designation lest they build expectations they cannot meet. But Senator Bob Dole of Kansas has no such compunctions.

CIA Is to Settle Sex Bias Cases

By Walter Pincus
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — The Central Intelligence Agency has tentatively agreed to give more than 250 women case officers back pay totaling nearly \$1 million and 25 retroactive promotions as part of a settlement to head off a gender-based discrimination suit, according to agency officials and lawyers for the women.

Also included in the settlement agreement, which is scheduled to be signed this week, is the promise of 20 "stretch" and "career-enhancing" assignments at the middle-grade levels that in the past were not normally given to women. In addition, 15 women who transferred out of the case-officer status will be allowed to return to their former roles.

Although some retired and active women case officers were said to be dissatisfied with the terms, Michelle Allison Fishburne, the Washington attorney who represented the women, said, "I believe we have overwhelming support for the agreement."

She said that the agreement would be enforced by a federal court and that its critics would have a chance to test its terms at a "fairness hearing" that is likely to be held by the court in June.

Sandi Fremont Lucas, a 14-year officer who joined the class action in December 1993 after deciding to retire from the Central Intelligence Agency, called it "a major step forward."

She said that although she "loved" being a case officer, "I didn't like the guys I worked for."

She said that "women go through hell in that organization" and that the money in the settlement was far less important "than the opportunities now open for jobs they could not get before, plum jobs that once were set aside for the up-and-coming males."

The settlement, sources said, was in line with one reached several years ago by women foreign service officers with the State Department. An active case officer, who asked not to be identified, said the accord also "was better than going to

court for 10 years and trying to work at the same time."

The CIA's deputy director for operations, Hugh E. Price, called the settlement "an important part of our ongoing initiative to implement personnel policies that make the greatest use of our talented workforce."

Since the exact number and identities of active case officers participating is classified, critics have questioned whether a poll taken on the proposed agreement accurately recorded its support among the participants here and abroad. The agreement, Ms. Fishburne said, would refer to "several hundred" case officers.

"Of the class currently employed," she said, "one-half responded, and approximately 90 percent were in favor."

Critics, however, said that more than half of the original principal complainants were dissatisfied and had hired their own lawyers. One woman said that when she called to record her vote against the settlement, an attempt was made to talk her out of that decision.

By Tim Weiner
New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — The Bush administration, in a show of public anger over the killing of an American, cut off military aid to Guatemala in 1990, but secretly allowed the CIA to send millions of dollars to the military government to make up for the loss, according to members of the Bush and Clinton administrations.

The payments apparently continued into the Clinton administration but it could not be learned if they are still being made.

About \$5 million to \$7 million flowed annually from the CIA through the agency's Guatemala station to the military, officials said.

The delivery of funds started after the White House formally halted military aid approved by Congress in a public display of frustration at the Guatemalan military's failure to assist in the investigation of the killing of the American, Michael DeVine, an innkeeper in the northern forests, was killed by Guatemalan soldiers in June 1990.

Two Bush administration officials familiar with the payments, who insisted on not being identified, said the money did not buy weapons but went

to mollify the Guatemalan military and to pay CIA sources.

"The agency ran this program on the basis that it was the key to keeping U.S. policymakers informed about what was going on within the Guatemalan government and the Guatemalan military," an official said. But he noted that it did not buy crucial information about the death of Mr. DeVine.

The apparent contradiction between the public policy and the approval of secret funds raises the question of how deeply committed the White House and the CIA were to investigating Mr. DeVine's death.

Representative Robert G. Torricelli, Democrat of New Jersey, who is a member of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, has linked a CIA agent, Colonel Julio Roberto Alpirez of the Guatemalan Army, to the killing of Mr. DeVine and to the death of a guerrilla leader who was married to an American lawyer.

Within the Bush administration, some officials said, there were arguments over whether the administration was being hypocritical by sending contradictory messages to the Guatemalan military.

"Guatemalan military officials told us: 'You guys are crazy. You shut us down in public, and then you give us stuff

through the back door, and everyone in the military knows it.'"

The CIA's payments to the Guatemalan military apparently fell under the veil of a "liaison" relationship with a foreign intelligence service, the Bush administration official said. The details of such relationships are rarely shared with congressional oversight committees. It is not known whether Congress was informed in this instance.

The Bush administration's public decision to withhold military aid to Guatemala in 1990 came as Ambassador Thomas F. Stroock was protesting increasing rights abuses in Guatemala and the inability or unwillingness of political leaders there to assert control of the army.

Washington cut economic aid to Guatemala to \$113.4 million in 1990, from \$141.3 million in 1989; military aid fell to

\$3.3 million, from \$7 million in 1990, the State Department also placed Guatemala on its list of major drug-trafficking countries.

Mr. DeVine was kidnapped and nearly beheaded by members of the Guatemalan military in June 1990. His body was discovered near a Guatemalan Army special forces training camp run by Colonel Alpirez, the officer accused by Mr. Torricelli of complicity in the murder. At the time, the colonel was on the payroll of the CIA, Mr. Torricelli says.

Mr. Stroock said in an interview that he sent his military attaché, Colonel Allen C. Cornell, to interview Colonel Alpirez at his jungle base but that the attaché was rebuffed.

Mr. Stroock said he went to see the CIA station chief after Colonel Cornell reported the incident.

"I looked him in the eye and I said, 'Are any of your 'assets'

involved in this?' " the former ambassador said. "And he said no. And I believed him. I had absolutely no idea that Alpirez was a CIA asset."

But Mr. Stroock said that after Colonel Alpirez refused to cooperate, he told senior officials at the U.S. Embassy that they were not to help the colonel again.

Colonel Alpirez received at least \$60,000 from the CIA between the time of the killing and the end of his financial relationship with the CIA in the summer of 1992, administration officials have said.

A third former high-ranking State Department official said he was certain the CIA did not inform the State Department and the National Security Council that Colonel Alpirez was its paid agent, even after the department received intelligence reports in 1991 that the colonel was implicated in the DeVine case.

Judge Rejects Policy On Gays in Military

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — A federal judge ruled Thursday against the Clinton administration's "don't ask, don't tell" policy on homosexuals in the military, saying that it was discriminatory and violated free-speech rights.

The U.S. district judge, Eugene Nickerson, issued the ruling on a suit brought by six homosexuals in the military who challenged the policy, which calls for the honorable discharge of service members who go public with their homosexuality.

"The policy of the act is not only inherently deceptive, it also offers powerful inducements to homosexuals to lie," Judge Nickerson wrote in a 39-page ruling, the first issued since the policy was established two years ago.

Pentagon officials had no immediate comment about the ruling.

Before the judge's decision, lawyers for both sides indicated they expected the case to be appealed, possibly all the way to the Supreme Court.

Discharge proceedings had been under way against three of the plaintiffs. All six remain on active duty.

Judge Nickerson said that even if the government intended that the law "prevent the commission of prohibited 'acts' or appease heterosexual prejudices," it had failed to make its case.

A key government argument was that the presence of homosexuals would damage "unit cohesion" and undermine the military's mission.

"Even if defendants do believe that heterosexual service members will be so upset by a co-worker's mere statement of homosexuality as not to work cooperatively in the unit, such a belief does not justify a discriminatory policy," the judge wrote.

When Congress adopted the "don't ask, don't tell" rule in 1993, it was an attempted compromise between the views of gay-rights advocates and those adamantly opposed to homosexuals in the military. The policy allows gay men and women to serve as long as they keep their sexual orientation to themselves and do not engage in homosexual acts.

An estimated 200 service members have been discharged under the policy or are awaiting decisions. President Bill Clinton, who had vowed to end discrimination against homosexuals in the military during the 1992 presidential campaign, has said he thinks the policy is working.

U.S. Probes Role in Murders

Agency Allegedly Shreds Data on Guatemala Contact

By R. Jeffrey Smith
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — The Clinton administration has taken a series of steps to secure any documents or other records relating to a possible U.S. government role in two deaths allegedly ordered by a Guatemalan military official who was a CIA informer, White House officials said.

President Bill Clinton ordered the Intelligence Oversight Board, a subcommittee of an independent advisory group, to do "a governmentwide review of any and all aspects of the allegations" surrounding the two deaths in question "as well as any related matters," a senior White House official said.

The oversight board is expressly charged with reporting on any intelligence activities that may be unlawful or contrary to presidential orders.

In response to the allegations that documents were being destroyed, the national security adviser, W. Anthony Lake, issued a general order that all government agencies must preserve any related documents. At the request of the Justice Department, the FBI opened an inquiry into the allegations, and FBI officials contacted the National Security Agency.

A senior Justice Department official said that "all necessary steps have been taken to ensure the security of the premises" at the NSA headquarters in Fort Meade, Maryland, where documents allegedly were being destroyed.

The actions came after Representative Robert G. Torricelli, Democrat of New Jersey, informed the White House and the Justice Department of allegations by an anonymous employee of the National Security Agency that the army and the NSA may have known about the two murders when they occurred.

According to the allegations, the army may have been involved in the murders and both agencies were trying to conceal their roles by shredding documents.

The multiple inquiries raised the prospect of a broad government inquiry into U.S. actions during the 1980s and early 1990s to assist the Guatemalan military in waging a war against a leftist peasant insurgency. More than 100,000 Guatemalan citizens perished in the war.

An unsigned letter received late Tuesday by Mr. Torricelli, printed on National Security Agency stationery, claimed that "extensive communication intercepts by NSA in Guatemala during the time of these murders clearly substantiate that the CIA and the DOD knew, at that time, the circumstances" of the murders. The DOD is the Department of Defense.

The claim conflicts with the public statement last week by William Studeman, the acting CIA director, that the agency did not know the circumstances surrounding the two deaths until long after they occurred.

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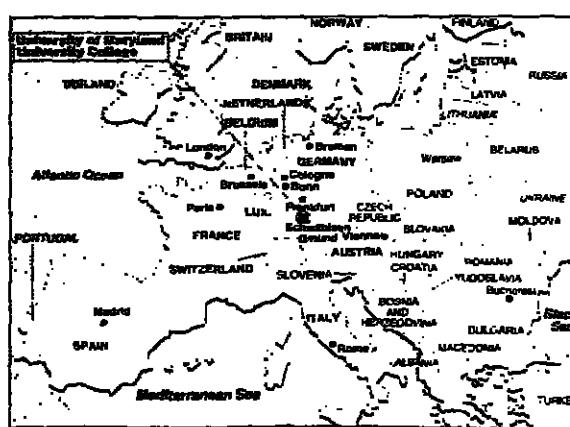
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Away From Politics

• A man who sprayed the White House with gunfire last October fantasized about eating Hillary Rodham Clinton's heart and said killing President Bill Clinton "would be very personal, very joyous," doctors told a jury at the trial of Francisco Martin Duran, who is charged with trying to kill the president. (Reuters)

• The U.S. government's main informant in the trial of a radical Muslim cleric and his followers has admitted that he hired an agent to try to sell his story to a book publisher or movie maker. Enad Salem, a former Egyptian military officer, testified during cross-examination that he was trying to make money off his undercover work. (Reuters)

• The U.S. Army says it will discipline nine instructors in the deaths of four army Ranger trainees last month. The four soldiers died of exposure Feb. 15 after spending four or five hours in chest-deep water in a chilly swamp near Fort Benning, Georgia. (AP)

• A triple murderer who requested the death penalty has changed his mind just days before his scheduled execution. Attorneys representing Martin Appel say he was not competent to plead guilty to killing three bank employees during a 1986 bank robbery. (AP)

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ASIA

A Japan-North Korea Appeal

TOKYO — The governing parties of Japan and North Korea signed a declaration Thursday urging their governments to revive efforts to normalize diplomatic relations, the official North Korean news agency reported.

The agreement was reached in Pyongyang between the three parties in Japan's governing coalition and the Korean Workers' Party, KCNA said in a report monitored in Tokyo.

The agency said that in the agreement, the parties "decided to recommend" that the North Korean and Japanese governments "hold the ninth round of talks for diplomatic relations as soon as possible."

"The four parties, motivated by their responsibility as the ruling parties, shall make such efforts that their respective governments can actively promote the talks for establishing diplomatic relations between the two countries at an early date," it said.

The declaration also urged Tokyo and Pyongyang to resume normalization talks with no "preconditions," KCNA said.

Japan and North Korea began talks on normalizing ties in early 1991. But the dialogue broke down in late 1992, when North Korea rejected Japan's demand for information about a Japanese woman allegedly abducted by North Korean agents.

The three parties in Japan's governing coalition "shall make positive efforts to liquidate the unhappy past between the two countries and establish diplomatic relations at an early date," the declaration said, according to KCNA.

Japan, which was the colonial power on the Korean Peninsula from 1910 to 1945, normalized relations with South Korea in 1965 but has no ties with the Communist North.

The 11-member Japanese delegation visiting Pyongyang is headed by former Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe.

Philippine Doctor Doubts Maid's Guilt

MANILA — A government medical examiner said Thursday he doubted that a Filipino maid hanged in Singapore for killing another maid could have committed the crime.

He said extensive injuries to the victim's body suggested that the killer had been someone much stronger.

Dr. Maximo Reyes examined the body of Delia Maga, who was killed in Singapore in 1991. Her body was exhumed Monday.

Another maid, Flor Contemplacion, was hanged March 17 for killing Mrs. Maga and her husband, a Singaporean boy.

Although Mrs. Contemplacion confessed to the murders, millions of Filipinos believe she was innocent. President Fidel V. Ramos has threatened to break relations with Singapore if an official inquiry found that she was unjustly executed.

In testimony before the commission, Dr. Reyes said an autopsy this week found signs that Mrs. Maga had been severely

beaten with a blunt object. A Singaporean autopsy led to a ruling of strangulation.

He said that five of Mrs. Maga's ribs had been broken and that the injuries had been inflicted while she was alive. He said the head injuries were severe enough to have caused death.

Based on the Singapore autopsy report, he said, Mrs. Maga's larynx was intact, indicating that she had offered no resistance when strangled.

"She may have become unconscious and strangulation was used to finish her off," he said.

After Mrs. Contemplacion was hanged, Mr. Ramos recalled the Philippine ambassador to Singapore, banned future deployment of Philippine maids to the country and sent a plane to Singapore to bring home maids who felt threatened.

The plane returned to Manila on Wednesday with 84 maids; many of these claimed to have been mistreated.

Singapore also recalled its ambassador to Manila.

Hong Kong Charge Is Unfounded, China Says

HONG KONG — China denied Thursday that its security forces had illegally entered Hong Kong waters to capture smuggling suspects, while the top official of the British territory ordered the police to take a tough stance against marauding Chinese boats.

Zhang Shengqin, deputy chief of the Guangdong Public Security Bureau, told a delegation of goods-transport officials from the territory that he was "surprised" at the reaction by the Hong Kong government over the allegation that Chinese patrol boats had illegally entered waters in the territory to capture at least two men.

Morning Post reported Thursday that Chinese security forces had pointed machine guns at Hong Kong police officers who tried to prevent the capture on March 18.

The patrol boat involved was traveling on the customary routes dividing Hong Kong and Chinese waters, Mr. Zhang was quoted as saying by the Hong Kong daily Ta Kung Pao, which supports China. He did not address the gun issue.

Mr. Zhang said it was not unusual for vessels from either side to inadvertently enter the other's territory. He added that Beijing had been strict on banning mainland boats from entering Hong Kong waters and that those violating the rules were "seriously handled."

He said there had been incursions in mainland waters by Hong Kong vessels but that they were dealt with in a "low-key" manner.

His remarks came as the Hong Kong governor, Chris Patten, ordered the police and Royal Navy to get tough on marauding Chinese boats.

Hong Kong has called for the release of the men, but Mr. Zhang was quoted as saying the detainees and their boats would be released only if investigations showed they were not involved in illegal activities in Chinese waters.

Chinese Mine Blast Kills 40

BEIJING — A coal-mine explosion in China's central Henan Province killed 40 people and injured 8, Workers' Daily reported Thursday.

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"The four parties, motivated by their responsibility as the ruling parties, shall make such efforts that their respective governments can actively promote the talks for establishing diplomatic relations between the two countries at an early date," it said.

The declaration also urged Tokyo and Pyongyang to resume normalization talks with no "preconditions," KCNA said.

Japan and North Korea began talks on normalizing ties in early 1991. But the dialogue broke down in late 1992, when North Korea rejected Japan's demand for information about a Japanese woman allegedly abducted by North Korean agents.

The three parties in Japan's governing coalition "shall make positive efforts to liquidate the unhappy past between the two countries and establish diplomatic relations at an early date," the declaration said, according to KCNA.

Japan, which was the colonial power on the Korean Peninsula from 1910 to 1945, normalized relations with South Korea in 1965 but has no ties with the Communist North.

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EUROPE

Trip Off, Raising Doubts on Yeltsin

By Carol J. Williams
Los Angeles Times Service

MOSCOW — President Boris N. Yeltsin of Russia has abandoned his cross-country journey to retreat to a secluded state dacha, his advisers disclosed Wednesday, scrapping what was to have been a two-week tour of the provinces aimed at getting in touch with the people.

Mr. Yeltsin will remain at the heavily guarded compound outside the southern city of Kislovodsk for the rest of his spring vacation, the Itar-Tass news agency reported, quoting "sources close to the president."

The sudden change in plans — at least the third departure from the announced schedule since the trip began Monday — stirred speculation about Mr. Yeltsin's health as he appeared weak and disoriented Monday during a short visit to the city of Ryazan.

Mr. Yeltsin's office announced two weeks ago that he would travel across Russia by train, stopping at Ryazan, Rostov-on-Don and Kislovodsk en route to the seaside resort of Sochi, where he would spend the last few days of his vacation.

But after the highly orchestrated Ryazan visit, he left the train behind and flew with

his security entourage to Kislovodsk, leaving local officials in Rostov with their city dressed up for a presidential visit that never happened.

"He is likely to spend most of his time at the dacha and waive a trip to Sochi planned earlier," Itar-Tass reported.

The sprawling spa facility where Mr. Yeltsin is staying was built for Communist Party chiefs by Leonid I. Brezhnev and is still known among Russians as "Brezhnev's dacha."

The presidential press secretary, Sergei K. Medvedev, who returned to Moscow when Mr. Yeltsin opted to skip the planned provincial visits, said the president spent Wednesday swimming and playing tennis.

Another Yeltsin aide, Sergei V. Svislunov, brushed off suggestions that the change of plans was anything more than the prerogative of a busy man taking some time off.

"He is on vacation and, naturally, free to alter the schedule of it," Mr. Svislunov said. "This does not mean he has rejected the idea of meeting common people in the street. He may do this later."

A local official in the Caucasus region of Kabardino-Balkaria told the Interfax news agency that Mr. Yeltsin planned to visit

there next Wednesday. But that visit has not been confirmed by Mr. Yeltsin's staff. "There may have been some sudden worsening of his health," said Mikhail Berger, a senior political commentator for the newspaper Izvestia. He said that, in Ryazan, "He looked far from his best form — the way he walked, looked and especially his speech."

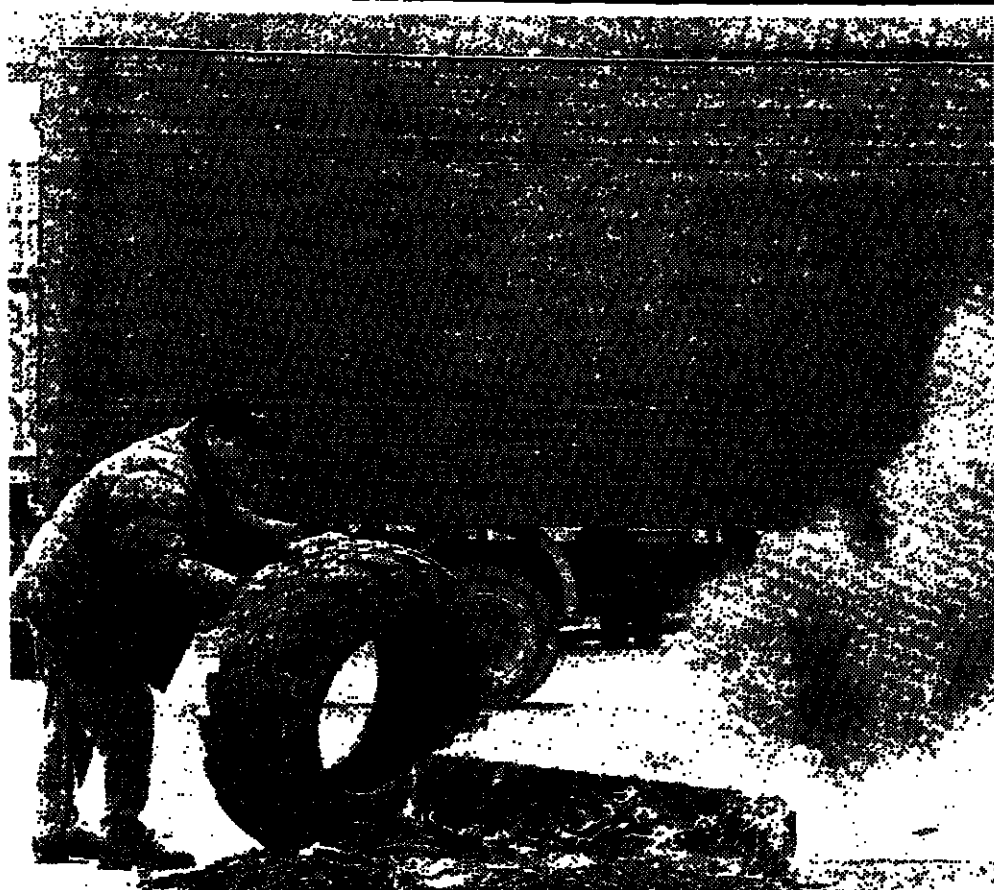
Western diplomats noted that Mr. Yeltsin had a long history of spontaneity, but said the latest improvisations might be cause for concern in light of recent instances when he appeared frail and dazed.

Television footage from a February visit to Kazakhstan showed him needing assistance to climb stairs. In a bizarre incident in September, Mr. Yeltsin failed to emerge from his plane to meet with the Irish prime minister during a scheduled stopover at Shannon Airport.

Mr. Yeltsin has also recently postponed several official visits, but those changes were attributed to political or logistical problems.

A state visit to Ukraine has been repeatedly rescheduled since last fall, but Mr. Medvedev said last week that the obstacle to that trip was the failure of the two countries to agree on a division of the ships and bases of the Soviet-built Black Sea Fleet.

BRIEFLY EUROPE



A Greek farmer burning tires Thursday near a blockade on the main highway.

UN Council Revamping Operations In Balkans

UNITED NATIONS, New York — The Security Council, racing against the clock, has reached broad agreement on how to restructure UN peacekeeping in the Balkans, but it still leaves open major questions on a planned reduction of troops in Croatia.

Three resolutions on forces in Croatia, Bosnia and Macedonia are expected to be adopted by Friday, when the current mandate expires for the 40,000-member UN Protection Force in former Yugoslavia.

The Croatian mandate changes appreciably by creating a border force to help control Serbian military supplies, while the mandates for Bosnia and Macedonia remain essentially the same.

But the 15-seat council will not decide this week on the number of troops in Croatia or details of their deployment.

A follow-up resolution is to be adopted by April 21 on the results of UN negotiations with officials in Zagreb and with rebel Serbs in Croatia's Krajina region.

"We are buying some breathing space," said a senior council ambassador. "A withdrawal of UN troops means war."

In addition to the Croatia border force, the resolutions would do these things:

- Create three separate but interlocking UN commands for Croatia, Bosnia and Macedonia.

- Change the force names to UN Confidence Restoration Operation in Croatia, UN Protection Force for Bosnia and UN Preventive Deployment Force for Macedonia.

- Extend mandates in Bosnia and Macedonia for eight months, to Nov. 30. The draft for Croatia proposes a one-year mandate, but diplomats said this may be shortened.

The Croatia resolution provides what the British ambassador, Sir David Hannay, called a "framework mandate" provoked by Zagreb's charge that UN troops are solidifying positions of the Serbs, who control almost a third of the country.

President Franjo Tudjman of Croatia, under pressure from the United States and Germany, recently revoked his decision to evict 12,000 UN peacekeepers from his territory.

But he demanded the force be cut and troops be deployed on his international borders to discourage shipments of military supplies to the Serbs.

U.S. officials estimate there will be about 8,000 troops in Croatia, including 1,000 at the frontier.

The resolution says UN troops are to assist in "controlling, by monitoring and reporting, the crossing of military personnel, equipment, supplies and weapons" over Croatia's international borders with Bosnia and Yugoslavia.

Nevertheless, Croatian leaders have objected to the arrangements. Foreign Minister Mate Granic said the new mandate did not "differ substantially" from the old.

Locust Infestations Feared

Knight-Ridder

LONDON — Crops could be threatened by an increase in desert locusts this year, the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization warned Thursday. Northwest Africa and the Arabian Peninsula are in particular danger because rain there is encouraging locust breeding, the group said.

Limit on Vetoes Is Urged

BRUSSELS — The European Parliament's largest group called on the European Union on Thursday to limit member states' rights to block legislation they do not like.

In a paper prepared for the EU's constitutional review next year, the 221-member Socialist Group said it wanted to get rid of national vetoes "in all but the most vital areas."

It also made a bid for the Parliament, the EU's only directly elected body, to have equal footing with the Council of Ministers in approving legislation for the 15-nation bloc. The council is the EU's decision-making body, comprised of representatives of national governments. Unanimity is still required among EU states for the most sensitive issues, such as taxation or institutional issues.

Turkish Arms Ban Unlikely

PARIS — The European Union is not planning to impose an arms embargo on Turkey, which has deployed troops in northern Iraq to fight Turkish Kurd separatists, French diplomats said Thursday.

The EU policy would not be affected by Germany's unilateral decision Wednesday to suspend arms shipments to Turkey because of the continuing Turkish offensive.

The diplomats here also confirmed that France is to deliver a first shipment of Cougar troop transport helicopters to Turkey "within the next few weeks."

The diplomats said the 15-member EU, of which France holds the six-month rotating presidency, is preparing to release a formal statement on respecting human rights.

Warning to Moscow Sought

PARIS — France wants the European Union to take a tougher line toward Moscow because of its actions in Chechnya, a senior Foreign Ministry official said Thursday.

The official said that Foreign Minister Alain Juppé, the president of the EU's Council of Ministers, was pressing for a joint statement warning Russia that it would have to reverse its policy in Chechnya to win approval of an interim

trade agreement frozen by the 15-nation bloc last month.

He said Moscow had taken "backward steps" in Chechnya by refusing to cooperate with the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, blocking humanitarian aid and stepping up military operations in defiance of the EU's calls for a cease-fire.

Greeks to Widen Blockades

ATHENS — Greek farmers in revolt against a new tax law threatened to extend blockades of major road and rail links Thursday, plunging the socialist government into a deeper crisis over how to handle the 11-day protest. Radio reports said the farmers, who have cut the main north-south road and rail links, were now blocking traffic heading for the airport at Salonika, Greece's second city and main northern port.

The farmers were also grouping in Corinth and threatening to block the bridge that connects the rich farm region of the southern Peloponnese to the rest of the country, reports said.

Calendar

European Union events scheduled for Friday:
BRUSSELS: The EU external relations commissioner, Hans van den Broek, meets Vice Chancellor Erhard Busek of Austria.

PARIS: The EU economic and monetary union commissioner, Yves Thibault de Silguy, attends a meeting of the Council of the EU Banking Federation.

ROTTERDAM: Neil Kinnock, the EU transport commissioner, meets the Netherlands' transport minister, Annemarie Jorritsma.

LONDON: Sir Leon Brittan, the EU trade commissioner, visits northeast England.

BRUSSELS: European and national members of Parliament of the European Popular Party complete the interparliamentary conference on the revision of the European Union treaty, slated in 1996. Wilfried Martens, president of the European Popular Group, and Marcelino Oreja, commissioner for institutional affairs, will conclude the discussion.

Sources: Agence Europe, AFP.

Court to Rule on Tapie Bankruptcy

PARIS — The turbulent affairs of Bernard Tapie could enter a new chapter on Friday when a court is to decide whether the politician and entrepreneur should be barred from public office and his business empire liquidated.

Mr. Tapie already faces a possible prison term over charges that he rigged a soccer match involving the team he owned, Olympique Marseille. The ruling Friday could be the

final blow to a career that has spanned sports, business and politics.

A three-judge panel will rule on Mr. Tapie's appeal against a business court's finding that he is personally bankrupt.

Should the judges uphold the bankruptcy ruling, his business holdings would be sold off to pay his debts.

This would lead to a procedure to strip him of his seats in the French and European parliaments, since French law bars

bankrupt individuals from elected office for five years.

Mr. Tapie, a former minister in a Socialist-led cabinet and a self-made millionaire now deeply in debt, has been the target of a wave of legal proceedings on charges ranging from tax evasion to insulting judicial authorities.

In January, an appeals court rejected his plea to suspend the bankruptcy ruling, which has effectively kept him out of this year's French presidential campaign and may also disqualify him from his longtime goal of running for mayor of Marseille in June.

The bankruptcy ruling was initiated by the state-owned bank Crédit Lyonnais, which said he owed it 1.2 billion francs (\$245 million) in unpaid loans.

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INTERNATIONAL

Role Reversal for U.S. at Rights Hearing

By Julia Preston
Washington Post Service

UNITED NATIONS, New York — The United States had to swallow a big dose of its own medicine when senior American officials came for the first time to defend their country's human-rights record formally before the United Nations.

A high-powered delegation including John H. Shattuck, assistant secretary of state for human rights, and David L. Patrick, assistant attorney general for civil rights, gave the United States' first report on its compliance with a key international human-rights treaty.

Rights experts chided the United States for endorsing the treaty only half-heartedly and keeping laws on its books that allow capital punishment for teenagers. Nongovernmental rights monitoring groups used the opportunity to unleash a barrage of criticism.

It was unusual role reversal for the Clinton administration, which prides itself on vigorous scrutiny of rights violations by other governments and has often used the United Nations to press its case against offending nations.

The United States ratified the International Covenant on Civil and Political

Rights in 1992. Like every other signer, it must periodically report on measures it is taking to meet terms of the treaty.

Hearings are held by the International Human Rights Committee, an independent body that includes leading authorities on rights law. This week, the United States is presenting its first report.

Mr. Shattuck's statement called the United States a "work in progress" in its human-rights practices.

"Our system is not perfect," he said. But he added that the "essential genius" of the Founding Fathers lay in their creating a system through which injustices "could be addressed and rectified, through the will of the people, under the rule of law."

In an interview, he said that being part of the treaty strengthens the United States' hand in dealing with abusive governments. "We're in full compliance with the treaty and have a system of civil liberties that is a model for the rest of the world," he said.

Mr. Patrick presented a long list of legal actions the administration has initiated to enforce anti-discrimination laws.

Committee members were concerned about reservations the United States tacked onto the treaty when it signed. In one, it declared that the pact does not automatically become domestic law. The U.S. position is that American laws al-

ready meet the covenant's standards. As a result, the treaty cannot be used as a basis for action in American courts.

Omaran Shafie, who is from Egypt, extolled the United States' overall record.

"People around the world look to your country as a yardstick for justice and fair play," he said. But he worried that the covenant would become "a dead letter" in this country because of the U.S. conditions.

Cecilia Medina Quiroga of Chile wondered whether the failure of the Equal Rights Amendment would put the United States out of sync with the treaty. Julio Prado Vallejo of Ecuador asserted that California's Proposition 187, which limits benefits to illegal immigrants, had created "discrimination against Latin American minorities."

Human-rights monitoring groups were even more outspoken. The U.S. treaty adherence "is purely cosmetic and has no practical value for Americans," said Kenneth Roth, executive director of Human Rights Watch.

Amnesty International said that "allegations of torture and ill-treatment in jails and prison are widespread" and that "police brutality is widespread and persistent in many areas."

Keep Quiet About 'Dirty War,' Menem Urges

By Calvin Sims
New York Times Service

BUENOS AIRES — President Carlos Saul Menem has called on former military torturers and murderers to confess to priests and not to "rub salt in old wounds" by publicly recounting their deeds.

"Publicly coming forward to give testimony is a way of returning to a horrible past that we are trying to forget," he said.

Mr. Menem, who is running for reelection in May, accused "some of the media" of playing up recent revelations

by a former navy captain, Adolfo Francisco Scilingo, who said the military disposed of hundreds of political prisoners by throwing them, alive but unconscious, into the ocean from aircraft.

In a radio interview, Mr. Menem said the Argentine people were tired of hearing about the military's "dirty war" of repression during the 1970s. He blamed the news media and former military officers for keeping "this horrible memory" alive.

Mr. Scilingo's disclosure has prompted other former military men to come forward in recent weeks. A former navy conscript, Raúl Alberto Guarín, said that

in the 1970s he overheard his superior officers discussing instances when they "threw live people into the ocean."

And a retired army captain, Héctor Pedro Verges, said both military and civilians should tell all that they know about the dirty war "for the good of national reconciliation."

Human-rights groups and the families of victims said that they were shocked and disappointed by Mr. Menem's statements.

A national commission has determined that 4,000 people were killed under the military government and that 9,000 people disappeared.

U.S. Says It Warned Haiti of Plot to Kill Lawyer

By Eric Schmitt
New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — The United States alerted the Haitian government last week that a prominent opposition figure who was shot and killed in Port-au-Prince this week was the target of a plot, according to administration officials.

The Haitian justice minister, Jean Joseph Exume, warned Mireille Durocher Bertin, a lawyer, but she declined gov-

ernment protection in favor of her personal bodyguard, the officials said.

She was a leading supporter of the 1991 military coup in which President Jean-Bertrand Aristide was ousted.

Responding to mounting concern about his government's inability to maintain public order, Father Aristide asked the FBI on Wednesday to take over the hunt for the assassins as Haitian, and American officials prepared for a visit on Friday by President Bill Clinton.

The information about the plot emerged after members of the U.S.-led military force in Haiti arrested at least two Haitians, who admitted under questioning that they had been planning to kill Ms. Durocher Bertin, 38.

They also said that one or more people connected to the Aristide government were behind the plot, according to administration officials. American officials in Haiti also gave this information to the Aristide government last week, but it

was unclear Wednesday how aggressively the government had pursued the information.

But White House officials sought to portray the plot as the act of rogue leftist supporters of Father Aristide or conservative opponents seeking to embarrass the Haitian president and sour Mr. Clinton's visit.

No one in the Clinton administration is suggesting Father Aristide knew about the plot, condoned it or encouraged it, American officials said.

BOOKS

MARIE CURIE: A Life

By Susan Quinn. 309 pages. \$30.
Simon & Schuster.Reviewed by
Marcia Bartusiak

WITH this new and long-awaited biography of Marie Curie, Susan Quinn strives to peel back layers of myth and idealization that have grown up around Marie Curie, stories that have flourished ever since Eve Curie wrote the celebrated book about her mother's life nearly 60 years ago. She succeeds beautifully. Quinn has written a worthy successor to her award-winning biography of the American psychiatrist Karen Horney.

Quinn's portrait of Curie is rich and captivating. She doesn't demolish the myth (Curie's industry and intelligence remain indisputable); rather, Quinn engagingly fleshes out the saga, allowing us to see both the physicist and the woman.

While adopting a cool, smileless exterior, Curie's inner emotions ran deep. Four years after the tragic death of her devoted husband and collaborator, Pierre, Curie cast off her bereavement by engaging in a scandalous affair with a married man, a liaison that almost cost her a second Nobel Prize.

WHAT THEY'RE READING

• Feisal Khalil, marketing manager of the London Dungeon, is reading "All the Pretty Horses" by Cormac McCarthy. "This adventure story has a peaceful, spiritual view of the world and describes a time when humans were living closer to nature. Given the nature of my job, it's like a restorative cure. I can escape the horror by just dipping into this whimsical romance." (Marcelle Katz, IHT)



Quinn's story is made more vivid by new evidence, in particular a personal journal that Curie started to keep shortly after her husband's death and that was first made available to researchers only five years ago. It is a story that deals with jealousy, misogyny, love, bitterness, revenge and determination, as well as scientific insight at the cutting edge.

Born in 1867 in Poland, Curie was the fifth and last child of Wladyslaw and Bronislawa Sklodowska, struggling educators whose ancestors had been members of Poland's landed gentry. A polymath, Curie's father immersed his children in an atmosphere of learning, both serious and playful. Little Ma-

ria Sklodowska was a precocious child, though volatile and emotional, traits likely exacerbated by the death of her mother from tuberculosis when Maria was only 10.

Curie decided to study physics and mathematics while working as a governess to help pay for her older sister's medical education. That she was ambitious was clear; marooned in Poland's hinterlands, she once despaired in a letter of "ever becoming anybody." But a doomed relationship with her employer's son, her first love, spurred her on to Paris at the age of 23 to join her sister.

She finished first in her sciences exam at the Sorbonne and second in mathematics. Teaching in Poland would have been her likely career, if not for her fateful meeting with Pierre Curie in the spring of 1894 to seek advice on a project.

It was two years after her marriage that Curie thrust herself into the forefront of modern physics by perceptively choosing to study a new phenomenon that surprisingly few were following up on: the astounding rays emitted by uranium compounds. Henri Becquerel first discovered

the effect; the Curies would name it — radioactivity.

When Curie received the Nobel Prize for physics in 1903, along with Becquerel and her husband, she confronted many prejudices. While feminists mistakenly saw Pierre as riding on his wife's coattails, reactionary thinkers spuriously cast Marie as mere helpmate to Pierre's great genius.

Curie's overwhelming grief at Pierre's death in 1906 did not abate until a consoling friendship with physicist Paul Langevin, a former student of Pierre's, turned into deep passion. France's tabloid press had a heyday, and for good reason. The story involved a love nest, stolen love letters, murderous threats against Marie by Langevin's insanely jealous wife, and a duel between Langevin and the journalist who exposed their affair.

After the scandal, Curie essentially took on the role of elder scientist, her most original work behind her. Despite Curie's international acclaim, the French Academy of Sciences determined to remain a male domain, never made her a member. Until her death in 1934, she devoted her life to directing the Institute of Radium, going on tours to raise funding, raising her two children (daughter Irene went on to win her own Nobel Prize) and establishing medical uses for radioactive elements.

Quinn replaces an icon with a fully dimensional person, a woman who can now serve to inspire future chemists and physicists even more.

Marcia Bartusiak, a contributing editor of *Discover* magazine and the author of "Thursday's Universe" and "Through a Universe Darkly," wrote this for *The Washington Post*.

BRIDGE

By Alan Truscott

IN the diagrammed deal East eventually doubled five hearts, an action that was certainly correct in one sense: East-West could not make four spades, let alone five. But beating five hearts was as not easy as East expected.

A club lead to East's ten would have settled the issue, but West had no reason to pick that suit. He knew that a minor-suit lead was indicated, but guessed wrong with a diamond. East took his diamond ace and shifted to the club ace. When West discouraged with the four, East returned to diamonds in the hope that his partner could ruff. South now saw that he could succeed with an even trump split, for he could use the diamonds. He planned to cash the king and ace of hearts in that order, a plan that was due to succeed.

But when he led the heart king, a surprising thing happened: West played the heart queen. South inspected this card and naturally concluded that it was a singleton. He

therefore overtook with dummy's heart ace and led a diamond winner. He expected East to ruff with one of the two missing trumps, and he would then overruff, cross to the heart ten, and score diamond tricks.

But when he tried this, East did not err by ruffing the diamond lead. South discarded, and Forquet produced the unexpected heart eight to defeat the contract.

NORTH
 ♠ 2
 ♥ A 10
 ♦ K Q J 7 6 5 4
 ♣ J 9 3
 WEST
 ♠ A 10 9 8 7 6
 ♥ Q 8
 ♦ 3 2
 ♣ 8 5 4
 EAST (D)
 ♠ K Q J 5 4 3
 ♥ 5 3
 ♦ A 8
 ♣ A Q 10
 SOUTH
 ♠ —
 ♥ K J 9 7 6 4 2
 ♦ 10 9
 ♣ K 7 6 2

East and West were vulnerable.
 The bidding:
 East South West North
 1 ♠ 4 ♥ 4 ♠ 5 ♥
 1 ♦ Pass Pass Pass
 West led the diamond three.

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Herald Tribune

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CONNECTING PEOPLE



Herald Tribune

PUBLISHED WITH THE NEW YORK TIMES AND THE WASHINGTON POST

Wrong Move on Libya

Libya continues to shield two suspects wanted for the terrorist bombing of a Pan Am airliner over Lockerbie, Scotland, in 1988 that killed 270 people. In a well-intentioned but flawed effort to press Libya to turn them over, the Clinton administration has proposed tighter economic sanctions. Tougher sanctions make sense in theory, but the administration's proposal for a global embargo on Libyan oil sales is unlikely to get international support. It will not produce the justice that the victims' families seek or the terrorists deserve.

The UN Security Council will take up sanctions next month. The council has already embargoed military sales, banned air links, prohibited the sale of oil-drilling equipment to Libya and frozen some of its foreign assets. The problem with an oil embargo is that Ameri-

can oil companies do little business with Libya. That means America's allies would have to cooperate to make it effective, and they have little financial incentive to do so. Italy, Spain and Germany buy large quantities of Libyan crude and would find it expensive to seek alternative suppliers. Libyan oil is light, easy to refine and can be transported to Europe at reasonable cost.

America's allies in North Africa would also bear the brunt of an embargo, especially Tunisia, which is exploring oil on its border with Libya, and Egypt, which counts on remittances from the thousands of Egyptians who work in Libyan oil fields.

To step up the pressure on Libya, Washington needs sanctions that other countries can support.

—THE NEW YORK TIMES

Oil and National Security

Half of America's oil supply is now imported, compared with a third in the mid-1980s. Does the rising dependence on foreign oil constitute a threat to American national security? Senator Jesse Helms and the Foreign Relations Committee held a hearing on that critical question the other day.

The short answer is "no," in the conventional sense of national security and the ability to fuel American military power in a crisis. The Defense Department testified that it could fight two major regional wars nearly simultaneously with about one-eighth of current domestic oil production.

But instability in the Gulf is always a threat to the American economy — and that is true whether imports are one-tenth of the country's supply or nine-tenths. The reason is that it is a worldwide market, and when a shortage abroad sends prices shooting upward, they shoot upward in America as well.

American production has been falling slowly ever since 1986, when the price for crude oil collapsed. The American fields have been worked for a long time, and production is much more expensive than in the Middle East. Many domestic oil producers would like to see import quotas to raise the price of oil at home above world levels, and they emphasize national security in their lobbying campaigns. But the country had plenty of

experience with oil import quotas from the late 1950s to the early 1970s, and they were disastrous. It is a very costly way to get a very little more oil.

The Energy Department told Senator Helms that it will shortly offer a series of recommendations stopping well short of import quotas or, for that matter, tax breaks. They will mostly involve regulatory relief for small producers.

Fully one-fourth of the world's oil supply now comes from the Gulf countries, according to the International Energy Agency, which means that there will certainly be further crises and disruptions. In the past 22 years, since the first crisis, the United States has done a lot to protect itself. The electric utilities have moved almost entirely away from oil. Similarly, residential and commercial customers have largely shifted to other fuels for heating. Conservation has very effectively cut consumption of energy by industry. Oil use is now heavily concentrated on the highway.

Vulnerability could be reduced, as in other countries, by a stiff tax on gasoline. But Americans have chosen to reject that. The result is that an oil shortage would have a horrendous impact on transportation and commuting, as anyone who remembers the last one in 1980 can testify. But that is not quite a threat to the national security.

—THE WASHINGTON POST

A Judge Goes to Bat

After bouncing from the bargaining table to the White House to Congress without resolution, the baseball stalemate is headed toward federal court just days before the season is scheduled to start. Whether Judge Sonia Sotomayor of New York can get the big-leaguers back on the field is unclear, but she should take a shot.

The National Labor Relations Board is bearing down on her court, seeking an injunction to restore bargaining issues that the owners have taken off the table. If she rules in the board's favor, which she can do for valid legal reasons, the players would end their strike. The owners could still scuttle a real season by locking out the players, but it is not certain a three-fourths majority would support that step.

In determining whether to issue an injunction, Judge Sotomayor must consider two issues. The first is whether the board is probably right in its preliminary finding that the owners may have engaged in unfair bargaining by unilaterally eliminating salary arbitration, free-agent bidding, and anti-collusion provisions from the negotiations. The owners say

those provisions need not be subject to mandatory collective bargaining, but the NLRB, siding with the players, disagrees.

While the board reviews the matter further, it has asked the court to order the owners to put these issues back into the negotiations. Courts are supposed to give the Labor Board the benefit of the doubt when it seeks this sort of temporary relief.

The second test the judge must weigh is whether court intervention is required in the broad public interest of fostering efficient labor relations. There is such a requirement in this case because if the board and the players are right, the owners would unjustly benefit from their unilateral action during the long NLRB proceedings that lie ahead. That would reward them for violating labor law, a setback for orderly collective bargaining. Again, labor law calls on judges to recognize the Labor Board's expertise and preliminary findings.

Judge Sotomayor may not be a baseball fan — she says she only follows the game on TV — but she can enter the game. The millions of her countrymen if she can get the game unstuck.

—THE NEW YORK TIMES

Other Comment

A Real U.S. Interest in Bosnia

Many people, while sympathizing with the Bosnian Muslims, find the situation too confusing, too complicated and too frustrating. Some are even tempted to throw up their hands. They say Bosnia is a tragedy but it is not our tragedy. They say we should wash our hands and simply walk away. This view is not only questionable from a moral standpoint, it is also flat-out wrong from a national security standpoint. It is true that we do not have what I would call vital national security interests in Bosnia. That is to say the survival of the United States is not threatened by actions in Bosnia. But we do have a security interest in preventing the violence from spreading and from stimulating a broader European war. We do have a security interest in limiting the violence and the flow of refugees, and we certainly have a humanitar-

ian interest in mitigating the violence. — From a speech in Baltimore by William Perry, the U.S. defense secretary, quoted in *The Washington Post*.

A Message for Iraq and Others

Other countries are looking to the response that we gave to Saddam Hussein. Other countries that do not wish us well always want to know what kind of a reaction is going to come from America. And we need to indicate up front that we take these things very seriously — especially with Iraq and all the problems that we were having with Saddam, constantly testing the system, seeing whether the alliance might falter. The problem is not simply the two Americans in trouble in Iraq. We have a real problem in trying to make our voice heard with regard to Iran.

— Senator Richard Lugar of Indiana, quoted in *The Washington Post*.

Odd Decisions for World War II Victory Ceremonies

By William Pfaff

PARIS — Some strange and wounding decisions have been made in Washington and Bonn about the 50th anniversary of the end of the Second World War. President Bill Clinton will go to Moscow, but not to London. The Poles are not invited to Berlin in May, where, according to Foreign Minister Klaus Kinkel, they would be out of place among the "Big Four" allies.

The latter, of course, are Britain, which won the war, with the belated assistance of Russia, which began the war as a collaborator of Nazi Germany; and the United States, brought into the war only

victory celebration in Moscow on May 9.

This choice of policy imposes its logic. Russian conduct in Chechnya notwithstanding — even as the Chechen refugee camps are bombed. Secretary of State Warren Christopher just had preliminary talks for the May meeting with Russian Foreign Minister Andrei Kozyrev and was reasonably tough with the Russians about their nuclear cooperation with Iran and the Chechen war, insisting with respect to the latter, that "a political settlement must be negotiated."

Mr. Kozyrev was equally firm in response. Has the Russian-American honeymoon ended? "I would say that indeed the honeymoon has come to an end, but a sobering period in the wake of the honeymoon did not end in divorce," Mr. Kozyrev said. Iran and Chechnya were discussed "without creating artificial linkages between these problems and some even more complex and complicated issues" — which suggests that Moscow came out of these talks, in Geneva, with cause for satisfaction.

Mr. Clinton has refused the British government's invitation to stop in London for its celebration of the war's end because Britain does not count for much in his administration's view of things. One reason for this is the extreme stupidity displayed by John Major and the Conserva-

tive Party in gratuitously interfering in the U.S. presidential campaign of 1992, looking for damaging information about Mr. Clinton and offering the Bush campaign unwanted advice on how the Tories had just won their national election.

The history and the tragedy of the Second World War are shabbily diminished by such partisan considerations. There would have been no victory without Britain. The United States supplied the brains for victory in Western Europe only when it was given no choice.

The victory on the eastern front, and the conquest of Berlin, were due to Russian heroism and sacrifice, even though it cannot be ignored that Stalin temporized with Hitler, helped Hitler's accession to power by attacking German social democracy through the Comintern and the West European Communist parties, and, comprehensible as his reasoning may have been, signed the infamous nonaggression pact of August 1939 with its secret protocols partitioning East-Central Europe between Germany and Russia. Moscow entered the war against Nazism only when compelled to do so by German invasion.

But Poland and its independence are what the Second World War officially was about. Britain and France guaranteed Poland, after abandoning Czechoslovakia to Hitler, but could not honor their guarantee. The Poles fought alone. Overrun, they were the first of Germany's victims to organize a huge system

of internal resistance, composed of an underground Home Army which continued the struggle and an underground shadow administration, judiciary and educational system linked to the government in exile in London.

Polish forces were reconstituted in France, Britain and Russia and fought on both eastern and western fronts. Polish airmen fought in the Battle of Britain. Polish ships in the Battle of the Atlantic. Polish ground forces in Italy and western Europe. They spent themselves in the ultimately futile conquest of Monte Cassino and the failed Arnhem airborne operation. "Market Garden," meant to cut off the German retreat on the north European front. Their ultimate sacrifice was that postwar Poland was not freed, but was submitted, with the Western allies' acquiescence, to Stalinist domination.

Poland has a better claim to be at any European victory observance than does France, however creditable France's ultimate performance in the war. It deserves to be there for the sake of all the overrun countries which set up exile governments and exile forces. The German government inevitably has an awkward role to play in all of this, but to exclude Poland from the ceremonies in Berlin is unacceptable.

A footnote: The Polish foreign minister, Wladyslaw Bartoszewski, was a prisoner at Auschwitz.

International Herald Tribune.
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Turkey Should Get Out of Iraq and Convert to Conciliation at Home

By William Safire

WASHINGTON — The military-dominated government of Turkey has sent at least 35,000 troops, with tanks and F-16s, into the northern portion of Iraq. That is the "no-fly zone" where the United States and its allies — including Turkey — are protecting Iraqi Kurds from the genocidal fury of Saddam Hussein.

The ostensible purpose of the invasion is to kill some 2,500 Kurdish radicals who have been using terror tactics to whip up support for an end to suppression of millions of Kurds within Turkey.

That is Ankara's cover story, which the Clinton State Department naively accepted as the invasion began. Hot pursuit of terrorists drew no objection from Foggy Bottom. Nor were questions asked about the disproportionate amount of force being used or the total press blackout.

Soon it will dawn on U.S. diplomats that the Turks are not merely punishing separatist

Kurds. If that were the only reason for the attack, Turkey's planes would hit the bases of the terrorist PKK in Syria and the Bekaa in Syria's Lebanon.

Turkey's concealed interest is in the control of oil facilities in Kurdish Iraq. Thirty kilometers of pipeline near Fayshkhabur was put beyond Saddam's control.

Ankara's generals are eager to do business again with Baghdad. The Kurds are an inconvenience. Because Saddam is prohibited from going in and securing his northern oil facilities, Turkey is doing the job for him. Its forces will stay until Saddam's forces can replace them — if the United States and its allies permit it.

What of the Iraqi Kurds, poisoned by Saddam, now being bombed by Turkey's Tansu Ciller? At a moment when ethnic unity is vital, and when Kurdish leaders have a chance at last to

establish an autonomous enclave of democracy — these wonderful people, with their distinct language and culture, are fighting among themselves.

One faction is led by Massoud Barzani, soft-spoken son of the late Mullah Mustafa Barzani, a legendary chieftain revered by Kurds and their growing legion of supporters. Another is led by Jalal Talabani, smoother and more extroverted than Massoud, and less willing to accommodate the Turks by negotiating with Saddam.

They both oppose the PKK, a Marxist splinter group that is gaining adherents throughout the five-nation area loosely called Kurdistan, thanks to villagers' fury with Turkey's attack.

Mr. Barzani is angry at Mr. Talabani's recent seizure of the Parliament building in Iraq's Kurdish capital of Erbil; Mr. Talabani charges that Mr. Barzani is not

sharing customs duties collected from smugglers. Their partisans are shooting at each other. A low-level State Department official tried and failed to restore sanity.

Can this mess be straightened out, with killing stopped, autonomy respected, democracy introduced? America cannot fail to try.

A message to Mam Jalal and Kak Massoud from a longtime friend: Nobody will help you unless you demonstrate you are ready for help. Each of you should fax a letter to President Bill Clinton asking him to send a high-level envoy to Iraqi Kurdistan. Commit yourselves to abide by his recommendations about an immediate cease-fire and a governing coalition in Parliament pending supervised elections.

If the Kurdish leaders make their requests, how should President Clinton respond? Not with a multilateral bandoff. Certainly the United States should ask the United Nations to condemn the inva-

sion and send in observers, but more diplomatic muscle is needed. We can hope that Mr. Clinton would appoint a prestigious and tough-minded special envoy (on the order of George Shultz, Sol Linowitz or Jeane Kirkpatrick) to quickly repair the Kurdish split, which is something I am told the warring factions want.

Stopping the Turkish invasion may involve a trip to Syria (if America talks to the PLO and the IRA, why not the PKK?) and Bonn (400,000 Turkish Kurds work in Germany), as well as other European capitals.

Then, in Ankara, the envoy's job would be to persuade Turkey's leaders that conciliation with Kurds and inclusion in Europe is more in the long-term Turkish interest than repression of Kurds at home and an oil deal with Baghdad. Such diplomacy is difficult but doable. If America doesn't lead the way, who will?

The New York Times

Thailand Needs to Brake Its Growth Now or Risk Hitting the Wall

By Philip Bowring

BANGKOK — Is Thailand riding too high for its own good? Even the Thais are surprised by the continued robustness of the economy.

The central bank is forecasting 8.5 percent growth in gross domestic product for 1995, the same as last year, and this despite the after-effects of Mexico's financial crisis. Yet, amid success, problems may be building up. Thailand might do better to lower its growth sights to more sustainable levels, before debt and a growing gap in income distribution undermine its reputation for social stability and sound economic management.

Rising interest rates, a further erosion of stock market values, and concerns about the debt level of some companies have accompanied rapid growth. Amid post-Mexico pressure on Thailand's currency, the baht, foreign investors have expressed concern

about Thailand's current account deficit and bank credit quality.

Though the foreigners may have overreacted, the prickly response of Thai authorities suggests that they have forgotten lessons learned in the early 1980s about the dangers of too much foreign borrowing.

Thailand has large foreign exchange reserves and an impressive investment performance, but its \$8 billion current account deficit is financed too heavily by short-term capital. Bangkok stock and money markets have remained under a cloud since the Mexico crisis began.

While Thailand is no Mexico, it increasingly merits the "Belgium in India" tag given to Brazil for its maldistribution of income.

The dry, impoverished northeast of Thailand, home to 30 per-

cent of the people, has much the same relationship to Bangkok as the dry, impoverished northeast of Brazil has to São Paulo, that country's leading industrial center.

Consider: Thailand is now the largest car market in Southeast Asia, yet 60 percent of the cars are sold to residents of Bangkok and its environs, who comprise only about 15 percent of the kingdom's population. So while the capital has become a traffic nightmare, Thais elsewhere make do with buses and motorbikes, and often with bikes and buffaloes.

The gap between the metropolis and the countryside has always been a problem. There are occasional bursts of rural infrastructure spending, as at present. But the fact is that the successful industrialization of the past decade has made the problem worse.

The gap is growing as the metropolis moves from low-value-added industries to increasingly capital-intensive manufacturing or high-value services. Like Brazil in the '60s and '70s, the modern economy is bounding along, driven by high investment and a domestic market for cars, condominiums and consumer durables.

The result, however, is that the metropolis and adjacent areas account for about 56 percent of GDP — and the figure is rising. Household income is three times the average for the north and northeast. Even within the metropolis there is a huge gap between those in high-value services and manufacturing and those in sweatshop industries and low-wage domestic employment. Nationwide, the top 20 percent of the people have 56 percent of the income, the bottom 40 percent only 11.5 percent.

Thailand, with its homogeneous society and less feudal land ownership patterns, should be able to avoid many of the social consequences of income imbalances that have afflicted Brazil. Nor does Thailand face China's problems of rural overpopulation and a huge and largely unregulated force of migrant job-seekers. But it does have its worries. Ever higher crime rates are one. A trend away from today's open society and capitalist economy is another.

These fears, if remote for now, cannot be ignored. Economic downturns in the '70s and '80s gave rise to serious instability.

Can anything realistically be done about income distribution? One school suggests that benign neglect is best. Everyone is benefiting to some degree, however small, from the dash for growth. The other is that the government should invest more in the hinter-

land; shift agencies out of Bangkok; improve education and so on. Such thinking runs up against a fiscal conservatism that has generated large surpluses.

Thus, while government has underperformed, the capital-intensive private sector has been able to borrow easily — too easily — at home and abroad.

It is here that the debt and distribution problems appear as two sides of the same coin. Too much money has been borrowed by the private sector, mostly for metropolitan use. Much has gone into capital-intensive projects, like steel and petrochemicals, which may not make use of Thailand's labor resources but are at least profitable. Too much, however, has been spent to create golf courses and shopping malls.

What is needed is long-term investment in infrastructure and in industries that can create non-metropolitan employment.

External forces may well make this happen. Foreign banks may decide to slow the growth of their Thai exposure. Thai borrowers of dollars may decide that there is an exchange risk. The government surplus will dwindle, and it may be forced to recognize the limits of the private sector's ability to finance roads and power stations.

A lowering of growth expectations could help reduce the current account deficit from 6 percent to a more easily managed 2 percent to 3 percent. It would also shift the emphasis of growth in a way that would help the majority of the Thai people without damaging manufactured exports.

A controlled slow-down now could avoid the sort of crash landing that could come later if interest rates, the dollar and energy prices cease to be benign.

International Herald Tribune

Escaping to Illusory Refuge in Cults

By Flora Lewis

TORONTO — Cults are proliferating, said a distinguished economist at the University of Toronto. There seem to be a lot more of them doing horrible things, a reference not only to the gas attacks on Tokyo's subway but to last year's Canadian-linked mass murders and suicides in Switzerland, and to continued scary headlines.

It probably isn't true that there are more outrageous outbreaks now, just that we hear more about them, more swiftly and vividly, and that we have forgotten even much of what we know about the past. There have always been Savonarolas of one kind or another.

The fear of apocalypse when the end of the first Christian millennium approached was widespread and brought a rash of panic-induced crimes. There is something of that dread of numbers going around today. Even though the Islamic, Hebrew and various Asian calendars are different, the Christian calendar so dominates the modern world that its impact is inescapable.

New York Times correspondents in Tokyo wrote a booklet of the Aum Shinrikyo sect, believed responsible for the Tokyo attacks and to have been planning much worse, as saying: "As we move toward the year 2000, there will be a series of events of inexplicable ferocity and terror. The lands of Japan will be transformed into a nuclear wasteland. Between 1996 and January 1998, America and its allies will attack Japan, and only 10 percent of the population of major cities will survive."

There is a difference between cult violence and political terrorism. But both are based on the exploitation of man's endemic fears and the attempt to identify the source of evil, so that it can be repressed. That has always been a deep human urge.

We know a lot more about nature than people did a few thousand years ago, when the only choice seemed to be to appease and submit to the many gods believed to inspire and rule it. The tremendous advance in the sciences provoked the 19th century optimism that steady progress to an assuredly better life was available, even inevitable, and so some said that God was dead and science would replace divinity. But fear remains. All kinds of fears, old and new.

It is sustained by the daily news, usually disasters, to remind us that people can be dangerous, viruses can be dangerous, machines can be dangerous, weather can be dangerous, even food can be dangerous, and the solid earth itself can tremble and destroy. Where is safety and who can assure protection?

The approach of science itself has changed. While researchers continue to probe in every direction, from the vastness of the universe to the invisible minutiae of the nuclear particle, they have a different concept of how it all works, some physicists say.

They point out that Newtonian physics, which dominated scientific thought, was essentially mechanical, seeking knowledge

by pulling things apart into their component things to see how they work. Modern physics is holistic, or in a sense ecological, seeking everything as interrelated, seeking knowledge in the interactions on all levels. It is an approach which restores the idea of unity in all, and therefore can encourage the idea of divinity.

Shoko Asahara, the sinister-looking leader of the Japanese sect, emphasizes science in his appeals. The choice of chemical warfare seems to reflect this, but correspondents say it also enables him to recruit among his followers well-educated youth from well-endowed families who are looking for an ancient faith.

It is noticeable in universities throughout the Arab world that students in the science faculties, including medicine and engineering, are much more likely to be attracted to fundamentalist groups than students in the humanities. This has not been studied enough to be adequately explained, but it suggests a search for belief beyond the impersonal, amoral, hard laws of science.

And the yearning for certitude in belief promotes the quest for a leader, the promise of escape from the responsibility of freedom by following someone who knows, or rather claims to know, absolutely how to banish evil.

Modernity, with its complex challenges and fears once unimaginable, will not rid us of this very old temptation. We are uneasy because all our extraordinary inventions have only made us feel more vulnerable. People haven't changed that much.

© Flora Lewis

IN OUR PAGES: 100, 75 AND 50 YEARS AGO

1895: Doctors Die Early

PARIS — Physicians do not live as long as other people, and the medical profession holds one of the lowest ranks in all tables of comparative longevity. M. Zelande, of St. Petersburg, has undertaken some researches on this subject. Foremost among causes of death come the contagious complaints contracted in daily practice. Another danger arises from laboratory research; many cases of death have been reported from microbial diseases contracted in experiments made by physicians for the good of their fellow creatures.

"The war," explains Dr. Hickson, "brought women to the front... American 'pep,' which was the result of a masculine-dominated country, will soon be a thing of the past. With the collapse of the male ascendancy, we can look forward to a nation in degeneration."

1945: Hitler's Month

PARIS — [The Herald says in an editorial:] It is startling to recall, as March dies to the sound of the rending and tearing of the collapsing Nazi Reich, that this was once known as "Hitler's Month." In the days when he was contemptuously shredding away by fraud and threats of force the rules of law and decency in Europe, he frequently reserved his most spectacular coups for March, so that the advent of Spring became a time of fantastic accessions of pride to his followers and of dread to peace-loving peoples.

1920: Nation of 'Sissies'

CHICAGO — Dr. William J. Hickson, head of Chicago's psychopathic laboratory and known internationally, says we'll all be "sissies" by and by. The war started it and Prohibition is finishing it.

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OPINION/LETTERS

Changing Climate: A Plague Upon Us

By Paul R. Epstein and Ross Gelbspan

CAMBRIDGE, Massachusetts — Natural climate change has been with us for eons, but accumulating evidence suggests that man-made greenhouse gases are now beginning to destabilize global climate patterns, triggering extreme weather events and causing the migration of various life forms. One result is the spread of some diseases and the re-emergence of others.

Consider India. For much of last summer, temperatures had soared from their normal 26 to 32 centigrade (80 to 90 degrees Fahrenheit) and hovered around 52 centigrade. By fall, animal carcasses littered the plains; fleas multiplied in grain caches. Above the baking landscape, rippling columns of air ascended, leaving low-pressure systems that lured in moisture-laden ocean air. Three-month monsoons bequeathed breeding sites for malaria, dengue fever and pneumonic plague. By the time the epidemics ran their course, as many as 4,000 Indians had died.

In the United States, long-range forecasts by the Climate Analysis Center of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration show increased potential for conditions conducive to vector-borne disease. This summer may be ripe for the expansion of dengue fever in the American Southeast and the re-emergence of Eastern equine encephalitis in the Northeast.

The world has a chance to confront this new menace at the international climate convention under way in Berlin. It was convened to refine and implement the global climate treaty signed in Rio de Janeiro in 1992. The conference has an opportunity to reduce significantly the world's output of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases and thereby help control not only climate change but the resulting spread of disease.

The critical role of global climate change in the worldwide movement of many disease-carriers has received little attention. The process is simple. Weeds, rodents, insects, bacteria and viruses — known as R-strategists — rapidly reproduce and colonize disturbed environments. Larger, slower developing K-strategists such as predatory birds and animals are superior competitors under stable conditions, but they submit to the opportunists when their habitat is fragmented, polluted or altered by rapid climatic change.

Fossil records — "paleothermometers" — demonstrate that during warm epochs insects have proliferated and extended their range more swiftly than have plants. One indication of the current spread of climate-related disease can be seen in the migration of seeds aegypti mosquitoes, which carry dengue and yellow fever. Historically restricted by temperature to 1,000 meters (3,300 feet) in altitude, the mosquitoes now have been reported above 1,350 meters in Costa Rica and at 2,200 meters in Colombia. Malaria carriers are appearing at higher elevations in Central Africa.

These changes parallel the movement of plants to higher altitudes on three continents and the northward shift of California coastal marine species. The movement of insects, rodents, microorganisms and weeds affects agriculture as well as humans. But predictions of favorable crop yields in North America under warming scenarios take no account of plant pests and pathogens. Chemical control measures offer no comfort. The long-term use of pesticides to destroy proliferating pests cultivates genetic resistance and kills the fish, birds, lacewings and ladybugs that naturally regulate those populations.

Extreme weather conditions affect marine, plant and human health by affording opportunistic species fresh terrain and generating new bursts of activity. The drying up of ponds concentrates microorganisms, while floods contaminate clean water. Droughts encourage locusts and rodents; floods foster fungi. The phenomenon called El Niño, the periodic eastward displacement of the Pacific's great warm water pool, is the most powerful known determinant of global weather patterns. Warm and cold El Niño events are associated with the deaths of large numbers of sea mammals; El Niño warm years are associated with upsurges of malaria globally, cholera in Bangladesh, hepatitis, diarrhea and dysentery in South America and encephalitis in Massachusetts.

We have entered the fifth consecutive year of anomalous conditions in the Pacific. Since 1877, no El Niño event had persisted beyond three years. Recent studies reveal enormous amounts of heat accumulating in the North Atlantic, Indian and Southwest Pacific depths. And — of vital concern — warm pools are collecting under polar ice sheets.

Warm water readily evaporates, increasing the atmospheric

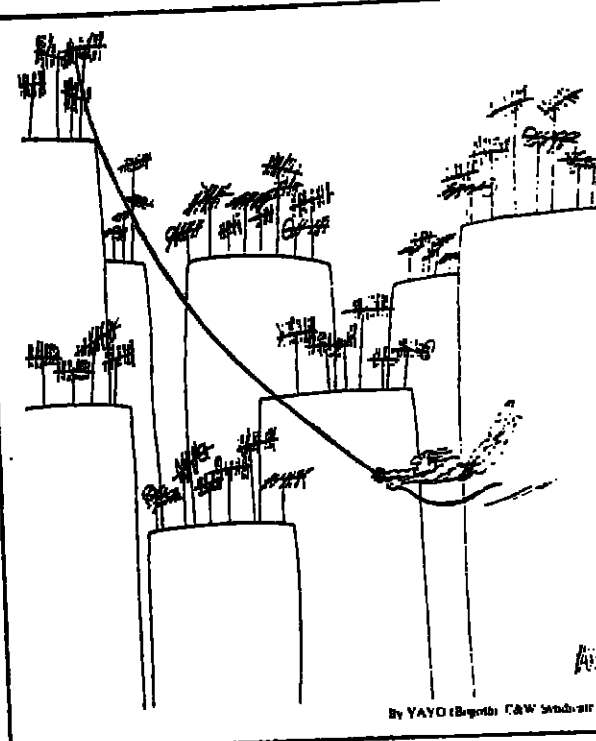
is cycling of water. Warmer seas may further alter precipitation patterns affecting distribution of insects as well as marine life.

Harmful algal "blooms" are appearing with increasing frequency and variety. Last summer, algal blooms covered one-third of a heated Baltic Sea. Since 1991 a "red tide" has re-occurred annually in the Chilean Straits of Magellan.

Any effort to deal with climate instability must recognize its environmental and ecological impact, for aesthetic reasons but also to protect complex systems of biological controls over pests and pathogens.

The mounting physical and biological indications of climate change suggest that greenhouse gas buildup from the burning of fossil fuel (6 billion tons, or 1 ton per person, of carbon emitted annually) may have begun to affect the planet-wide systems. And the progression may not be a straight line. Prolonged periods of climate "regimes" can change abruptly. Ice-core samples from Greenland indicate that the jump from the last Ice Age to the present hospitable "Holocene" state took not centuries, as once believed, but three to seven years.

Thus public perception must jump from debating "global warming" to understanding climate change, variability and stability. Will we read the signs of global change and react before the resilience of natural systems is exceeded? Or must we wait, as have earlier societies



By YAYO (Bogotá) C&W Studio

stricken by epidemics, to be transformed by them?

The World Health Organization, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta, need supplemental capacity to detect and respond to emerging diseases.

The global redistribution of infectious diseases may prove to be only one of the "surprise" areas of climate change. A fully integrated ecological risk assessment that included the spiraling losses in well-being, agriculture, development, tourism and insurance would suggest that the societal costs of not shifting from business as usual are far greater than we imagine.

This expanding potential disaster elevates the urgency for curbing consumption of coal, oil and timber — to slow the rate of

climate change and allow time for life forms to adjust.

Protection of global health rests upon the efficient use of all resources. Ultimately our well-being depends upon our skill in duplicating the exquisite economy of photosynthesis by harnessing the sun to generate our energy needs.

Unfortunately, the outlook for substantial achievement at the Berlin conference does not inspire optimism. Divisions between the industrialized countries and the developing world threaten any real progress. So do ancillary disputes, between the world's oil-producing states, which oppose any meaningful emissions limits, and its smaller island nations, which have a special vulnerability to unstable climate and are push-

ing for a 20 percent reduction in emissions by the year 2005.

Many European countries are pushing for hard targets and timetables by which to reduce climate-altering emissions, while the U.S. delegation is willing to subject any such goals to prolonged negotiations before they are ratified.

Unfortunately, the threat is all too real, and time in which to respond is short.

Dr. Epstein is a physician with the New Disease Group at the Harvard School of Public Health and the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. Mr. Gelbspan has reported on environmental affairs for 24 years, most recently for The Boston Globe. They contributed this comment to The Washington Post.

MELBOURNE — Just after 11 A.M. on April 1, 1945,

American troops began to land on Okinawa, south of the Japanese home island of Kyushu. It was Easter Sunday and, as the troops reminded themselves, also April Fools' Day.

Conditions were deceptively kind. The weather was cool and the sea calm as the first amphibious tractors and other landing

1945 PACIFIC 1995

craft, untroubled by waves, reefs or even serious enemy fire, began to reach shore, bringing the first of the U.S. Army's nearly 100,000 assault troops and more than 80,000 marines for what was to be the last great land battle of the Pacific War. In the British aircraft carrier Indomitable, I had seen Japanese aircraft approach on the radar screen. One moment they were there, the next they had

disappeared. Not because they were on their way home: They were right above us.

Minutes later, a Zero fighter with a 500-pound (225-kilogram) bomb in its bay swept across the flight deck of the carrier, its guns blazing, the red circles painted under its wings seemingly as big as the sun. It sprayed the superstructure of the ship. A bullet hit a seaman at the rail of the flight deck. He was steady for a moment, then fell dead beside me.

The Japanese pilot, undisturbed by our anti-aircraft fire, headed away from us toward a second British carrier, the Indefatigable. At the end of a suicide dive, his plane hit the base of the superstructure. The vessel stopped and drifted astern, hidden by a heavy cloud of smoke that trailed behind her in a black streamer for a mile or more.

Before the kamikazes had finished with us, other planes crashed onto the battleship King George V and another British carrier, the Illustrious.

To the north, as American troops began to cross the landing beaches on Okinawa, swarms of kamikaze planes attacked, hitting nine vessels in the Allied armada of 1,475 warships, transports, ammunition carriers and freighters assembled for the invasion. It was just a taste of things to come.

A prefecture of Japan, Okinawa Island had a civilian population of almost half a million, mostly farmers who lived in thatched cottages and grew sugarcane, sweet potatoes and other vegetables.

With two Ijima now firmly in American hands, the United States needed Okinawa as an unsinkable aircraft carrier. It

would be used to soften up Kyushu for the projected invasion of the Japanese homeland in November, and as a supply depot to meet the demands for ammunition, fuel and food for the invading forces operating thousands of miles from home.

For the Japanese, Okinawa's defense was crucial. On it rested their slender hopes of averting either invasion of the homeland or unconditional surrender.

Desperate needs caused desperate tactics. To counter earlier invasions of islands they held in the Central Pacific, the Japanese had tried to win at the beachhead, thus exposing themselves to the overwhelming weight of U.S. firepower.

This time, they had decided to go underground and wait until the bombardment had ended and the troops were ashore before pouncing. Meanwhile, in the air, thousands of kamikaze planes were to destroy the invasion fleet, leaving the Americans on the island cut off from resupply, isolated and vulnerable. The battle was to be a victory of mind over matter, of spirit over guns and bombs.

By the end of the operation, the kamikazes had sunk at least 57 ships and put out of action more than 100 others. Some 4,900 U.S. sailors were killed and a similar number wounded.

Yet the results were not nearly as impressive as the Japanese thought. Pillars of smoke rising from an apparently crippled ship seemed from a distance to mark its certain destruction. But the ratio of losses to strikes was relatively small.

This was just as well for the American troops ashore. They discovered that although the terrain had been pulverized by U.S.

shells and bombs, the Japanese defenders were well equipped and determined to fight.

For days before U.S. forces landed, Okinawa had been bombarded from sea and air. Thirteen battleships, nine cruisers and planes from no fewer than 40 aircraft carriers seemed to have blown the island to bits. Observation planes could detect no sign of life. Okinawa, it appeared, had become a graveyard.

Soon it was to be. But on that Sunday, almost all the 80,000 troops of the Japanese 32d Army — many more than Allied intelligence had reported — were very much alive. Under Lieutenant General Mitsuru Ushijima, one of Japan's more impressive commanders, they had disappeared into a vast network of caves and underground tunnels and bunkers, proof against all the explosives the Americans had fired and dropped.

Japanese strong points were mutually supporting and built into both the forward and reverse slopes of the hills at the northern and southern ends of the island.

The Americans were now equipped with flame-throwing tanks, which they used to burn out the Japanese. Even so, by the end of the fighting on Okinawa, more than 7,000 U.S. soldiers and marines had been killed and there were nearly 60,000 other casualties.

Had the Americans gone ahead with the invasion of Kyushu, they would have faced thousands more kamikazes and nine times the number of Japanese troops deployed on Okinawa.

The writer, who covered the war in the Pacific for Australian and British newspapers, contributed this comment to the International Herald Tribune.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

He Should Stay Home

Regarding "Russian Troops Open Major Drive Against Chechen Stronghold" (March 22):

The casualty figure to date in Chechnya, according to this report, is about 25,000 civilians dead, many of them ethnic Russians. President Boris Yeltsin is on record as complaining that the Balts, the Ukrainians and the Georgians discriminate against ethnic Russians living in those countries. Yet he stands by the order that is killing ethnic Russians — all for the "greater good" of keeping Chechnya in the Russian Federation.

Still, America's too well-intentioned, too fair-minded president will go to Russia. He will celebrate the end of one war when another one is being waged under his nose in the senseless exercise of keeping together an empire that is straining at its seams.

Oksana P. Struk, Sarcelles, France.

Dresden and Beyond

Had there been a Dresden-type series of raids on Germany during World War I, perhaps there would not have been a World War II. Perhaps the Germans would not have followed Hitler so enthusiastically all the way to war, in full confidence

that, as in World War I, only other countries would suffer. Perhaps they would have thought twice before visiting the horrors of war on their neighbors, and on the world.

JIM PRICE, Trieste, Italy.

Regarding the report "Japan Ignites a Firestorm Over Atomic Bombings" (March 16):

Mayor Hitoshi Motomura of Nagasaki is right to say that the atomic bombings were among the greatest crimes against humanity in the 20th century. One should add the monstrous carpet bombings of Tokyo and of other Japanese cities, as well as the brutal fire-bombings of Berlin, Dresden, Hamburg and other German cities. Hundreds of thousands of innocent civilians met a horrible death.

Neither the United States nor Britain has apologized for these most terrible crimes.

HERBERT A. KAMP, Saarbrücken, Germany.

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*There's no discouragement
Shall make him once relent
His first avowed intent
To be a Pilgrim.*

By Kate Singleton

Beyond the hallowed portals is a vast double spiral staircase. Ascension in this

Move on, move on! Past frescoed maps devoid of explanations. Past vases re-

Revised and heartened, the crowds head on in the direction of the Raphael Rooms and the Sistine Chapel. The excitement increases as the arrows multiply. Frescoes! Imploring eyes try to discern beauty and fulfillment in the ghostly post-everything pathos of the Madonnas and Saints in the Siesieki Room. Thus transfixed, in the following rooms visitors fail

A closed door on the far side of the innermost Raphael Room was evidently not worth pinning up a notice there or at the museum entrance. Due to restoration the Cappella Niccolina is closed, thus hid-

Once out of the Fire in the Borgo Room, the Route to the Sistine Chapel

Step forward, all you art pilgrims step forward. Enlightenment is a gift, not a quest. To be is more important than to see. This is visiting with blind faith: No questions (but if you've forgotten anything there's another duty-free, oops sorry, gift shop precinct near the museum exit).

Kate Singleton lives in Italy and writes frequently on cultural affairs.



Spain weighs in with a retractable landing gear for dirigibles. Hungary introduces an aluminum church bell, a

There are plenty of goodies in the health sector. A "magnetic sock" from South Korea revivifies tired feet and a

Vincent says most of the 100,000 expected visitors are manufacturers and distributors looking for new ideas. In

The WIPO, along with the city of Geneva, awards the most original ideas with prizes and medals. This year, Switzerland leads the pack with 15 percent of all exhibitors, followed by Germany, France, Hungary, Romania and the Netherlands. The United States is a notable absentee, "because American in-

Vincent says that "practical" innovations score best. Having sold all their inventions last year, Dutch tinkers are back in strength with 25 novelties, rang-

Not to mention a Croatian invention that promises to turn stutterers into articulate orators.

This drama about interracial adoption is serious and affecting, thanks in large part to Jessica Lange and Halle Berry, who breathe life into their debating positions. The first side to this story is that of Margaret Lewin, a white social worker who adopts an abandoned black baby. Although Margaret has a seemingly happy family she doesn't need this new commitment, but she craves it anyway. Isaiah (Marc John Jefferies) grows up to be a cute, rambunctious tot. Meanwhile, the mother,

Farewell, Japan
Directed by Yukihiko Tsutsumi. Japan.
When the Japanese government is slow to help the survivors of a typhoon-struck island, they decide to become independent. The

Tsutsumi is not, however, of this class. He seems to exert no control: everyone overacts in the great tradition of TV comedy; there is no tempo, one scene follows another at leaden pace; and the whole picture slowly sinks past mediocrity and into the awful depths. If the producers were going to rip off "Passport to Pimlico," they



Dolores Claiborne
Directed by Taylor Hackford.
United States.
"Dolores Claiborne" is another Stephen King-based

attraction is just Dolores (Kathy Bates), a tough-talking Maine housekeeper suspected of killing her employer. This becomes an occasion for Dolores to ex-

amine her past for the benefit of a police investigator (Christopher Plummer), and to get reacquainted with her estranged daughter, Selena (Jennifer Jason Leigh), a brittle New York journalist who has avoided home ever since her mother was ac-



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THE WORLD'S DAILY NEWSPAPER

cused of murdering her father. The story is a litany of Dolores' complaints, most of them against her husband, Joe St. George (David Strathairn). Another part of "*Dolores Claiborne*" is about Vera Donovan, (Judy Parfitt), who is alternately the commanding owner of the waterfront house where Dolores works and a pitiful invalid dependant on Dolores to take care of her. It is Vera who suggests the film's blunt credo: "Sometimes having a bitch is all a woman has to hold on to," which is as close as "*Dolores Claiborne*" comes to insight.

(James Maslin, NYT)

Les Rendez-Vous de Paris

Directed by Eric Rohmer.
France.

Eric Rohmer has spent 30 years embroidering on stories in which boy meets girl and talks her head off. Age has not dulled his sharp pen—the talk is as good as ever. This new comedy is about rendezvous made and missed with choreographed precision: this could only be

Paris — filmed from the Luxembourg Gardens to Montmartre — and the characters could only be French. We enter disorderly apartments, amble through markets and parks, and eavesdrop on these awkward provincial people. They are law students, professors from the provinces, visiting, baffling and irritating. In the first party, Esther suspects her boyfriend Horace of seeing another girl and traps him with her; in the second, lovers meet in parks all over town for a tantalizing courtship that is thwarted; in the last, a painter drops one girl to pick up another at the Picasso Museum, but he makes the wrong choice. Each encounter, on each site is set to show off a postcard triviality, but also to hint at dramatic potential — love is cruel, and characters are not named Horace and Esther for nothing. Yet there is something sterile about the exercise, pirouettes that fall too often in the same spot and make you nostalgic for the airy Rohmer of earlier films.

(Jean Dupont, *HTT*)

HEAR THIS

■ Onward and upward with the arts: A show at the Serpentine Gallery in London featuring 12 "artists" lets visitors touch the exhibits and even take them away (old clothes) or buy them (chocolate bars). "Everything is either touch-able, take-able, test-able or buy-able. Everything other gallery exhibitions are not," a spokeswoman told Reuters.

INTERNATIONAL

Algerian Islamist Appeals for Peace

In Open Letter, Militant Chief Denounces Abuses by All Sides

By Youssef M. Ibrahim
New York Times Service

PARIS — A leading figure of the armed Islamist movement fighting to overthrow Algeria's government has appealed to the country's military leadership for the first time for a peaceful solution of the civil strife that has taken nearly 40,000 lives there in the last three years.

The call for a negotiated end to the war between fundamentalists and the secularist establishment came from Madani Merzak, who heads the Islamic Salvation Army, the armed wing of the largest political opposition party in Algeria, the Islamic Salvation Front.

The declaration also denounced "abuses" by the army fighting to eradicate fundamentalists, as well as by militant Islamist groups themselves, some of which have adopted a gruesome policy of assassinating women, teachers, intellectuals and journalists in an attempt to silence the country's secularists.

The 21-page statement was issued in the form of an open letter addressed to President Liamine Zouari and a wide segment of Algerian decision-makers, including jailed fundamentalist leaders, senior commanders of the army, and the Algerian people. It began to circulate widely Thursday.

"Each day that passes complicates the crisis," Mr. Merzak said. "Each fallen martyr deepens the wounds. And each citizen abused cultivates in himself the will to defy and to fight humiliation." He signed the document as the "National Emir," or leader in Islamist terminology, of both the political party and the Islamic Salvation Army fighting in its name.

The appeal has received a mixed reception from former and current officials of the Algerian government, who noted privately Thursday that it came on the heel of

an aggressive campaign by the army in the past six weeks that is taking a rising toll among militants. A battle now in its 11th day in western Algeria is reliably reported to have resulted in the killing of at least 600 fundamentalist fighters and perhaps as many as 1,000.

Officials close to Algerian Army intelligence were said to believe that the appeal was essentially aimed at reducing the military pressure, which has grown significantly since January.

Other officials argued that fundamentalist factions were too divided to deliver a peace strategy, noting that Mr. Merzak cannot pledge a cease-fire on behalf of a major faction battling the government, the Armed Islamic Group, which at this point appears to be doing much of the fighting.

Indeed, Mr. Merzak appeared to distance his movement from the murderous actions of the Armed Islamic Group, known by its French acronym, the GIA. The group has widened its assaults beyond the army to target a broad segment of the civilian establishment.

Ranked as the most violent of the Algerian factions, the Armed Islamic Group has taken responsibility for acts of terror, including the burning of about 500 schools, the killing of scores of unveiled women and many journalists, writers and intellectuals who have openly opposed fundamentalism. It has also carried on a campaign to murder foreigners.

"We deeply suffer from the abuses carried out by this or that side that harm people and those committed by infiltrated ignorants," Mr. Merzak said.

"We will act, God willing, to confront these abuses whatever side is committing them," he said.

A senior Algerian official close to security services, who asked not to be identified, said: "Frankly, I don't think Merzak is all that powerful. Generally speaking, the GIA is leading the offensive of the Islam-

ists and doing most of the damage. Merzak may be trying to save a seat in any potential negotiations for the political leadership of the Islamists, which is in jail and far from active."

Another former Algerian cabinet member who is in close touch with the authorities said the Islamists' move "may be significant." But he added that "we have to wait for the cascade of reactions among the Islamists before judging the importance of the message."

"Merzak may be speaking for a small group or flying a test balloon, the former official said. "He may also be cutting a larger profile for himself."

Certainly, Mr. Merzak was reflecting the lack of leadership at the top of the Islamist movement. In remarks addressed to the two top leaders of the movement, Abassi Madani, 65, and Ali Belhaj, who is in his mid-30s, Mr. Merzak said it was suffering from divisions because of lack of guidance at the top about the exact purpose of the armed effort.

The two men and other top leaders of the Islamist movement, who have been under arrest, in the underground or in exile since 1992, are known to have differed over the use of violence. In 1992, the government dissolved their party and canceled national elections they nearly won.

Bonn Holds 2 Algerians

Germany's federal prosecutor has arrested two Algerians suspected of smuggling weapons to Islamic fundamentalists in Algeria, the prosecutor's office in Bonn said Thursday, Reuters reported.

The arrests followed raids Tuesday on an Algerian ring in which weapons, ammunition and explosives were seized, as well as a large amount of money, the office said.

Alli C. 33, and Mahmoud L. 24, were accused of belonging to a criminal organization smuggling weapons to Algeria from Germany and other European countries.

French Accept Homosexuals, Survey Shows

Reuters

PARIS — The French are tolerant of homosexuals in politics, wary of the idea of gay marriages and oppose allowing homosexuals to adopt children, according to an opinion poll made public Thursday.

The survey by the BVA polling group for the gay magazine *l'Illico* and the radio station *Radio FG* revealed greater acceptance of gay rights among women than men and showed that young people were more tolerant of homosexuals than older people.

Overall, it found that 71 percent of voters would not change their vote in the April-May presidential election if they discovered that the candidate they favored was homosexual.

The poll indicated that 50 percent favored and 47 percent opposed letting lesbians and gay men wed in civil services.

But the survey also indicated that 80 percent of the French were opposed to artificial reproduction for homosexuals, and 62 percent would bar them from adopting children. It also showed that 72 percent were willing to give homosexuals the same rights to inherit from their partners as heterosexuals.

Germany Mends Rift With Rabin

Reuters

BONN — Israel's prime minister, Yitzhak Rabin, and Chancellor Helmut Kohl of Germany have patched up differences over a report saying Bonn negotiated with Iran to free an Israeli aviator, German officials said Thursday.

Mr. Rabin flew to Bonn on Wednesday for four hours of previously unannounced talks with Mr. Kohl.

Foreign Minister Shimon Peres of Israel had denied that the talks concerned the report. But on Thursday, an Israeli television station reported that the Kohl-Rabin meeting was an effort to resolve differences stemming from the report which had threatened to cancel Mr. Kohl's planned visit to Israel in June.

The conflict, officials said, resulted from an article in the Frankfurt *Allgemeine Zeitung* newspaper in Germany, which said last month that Bonn had negotiated on Israel's behalf with Iran for the release of the Israeli aviator.

The aviator, Ron Arad, has been missing since he was shot down over Lebanon in 1986. The newspaper said he was being held by Iranian fundamentalists.

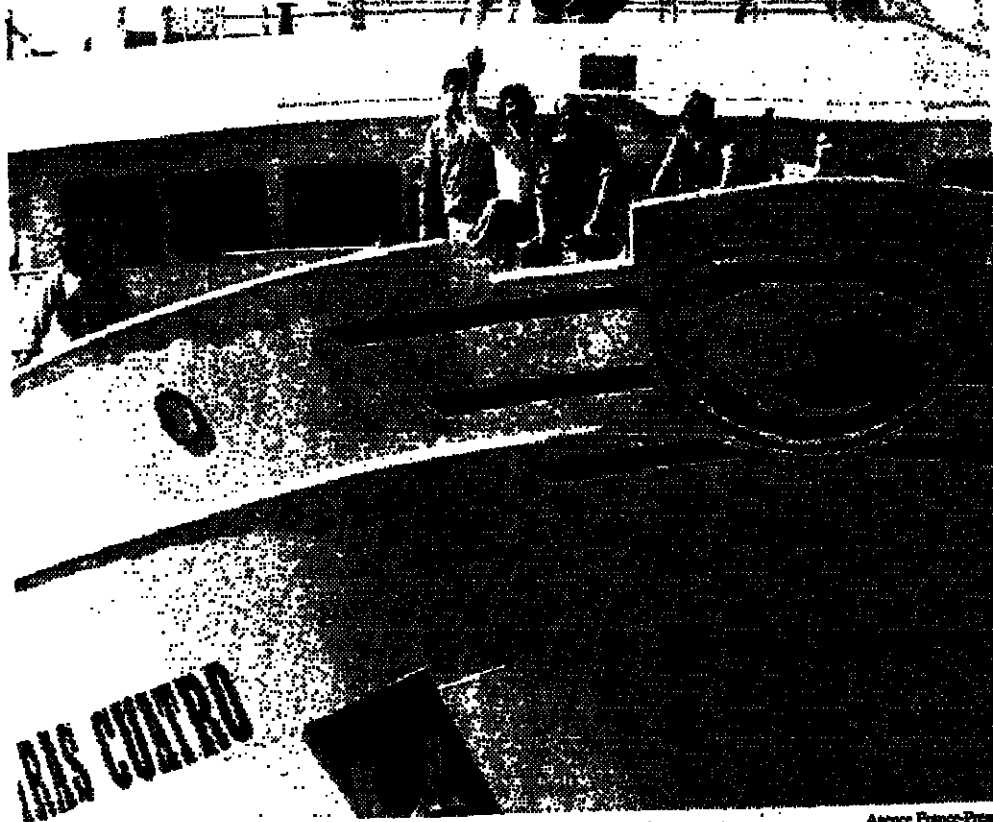
Both Israel and Iran denied negotiating over Captain Arad, and a senior Israeli Parliament member, Ori Orr, accused Germany of disclosing its account to "sanitize" commercial ties with Iran.

A German government spokesman, Peter Haussmann, said Thursday that the talks were routine.

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Crew members of the trawler *Puerto Perlas 4* leaving Vigo, Spain, on Thursday to replace the *Estai*, which had been seized by Canada in fishing grounds off Newfoundland.

EU and Canada Cite Progress

Union Sidesteps Demand for Sanctions in Fishing Rift

By Tom Buerkle
International Herald Tribune

BRUSSELS — The European Union and Canada said Thursday that they had made progress in resolving their fishing dispute, enabling the Union to fend off new Spanish demands for trade sanctions over the interception of two of its trawlers off the coast of Newfoundland.

However, the Union also issued a fresh warning to Canada not to take new action on the high seas, reflecting Europe's uncertainty that Ottawa is politically prepared to cut a deal after conducting a media campaign against what it alleges is Spanish overfishing.

"Any repetition of unilateral action by Canada would be bound to have consequences for the relations between the European Union and Canada likely to extend beyond fisheries," the European Commission said in a letter to the Canadian Foreign Ministry.

That warning was partly blunted by Prime Minister John Major of Britain, who told Parliament on Thursday that his country would block any EU move to impose sanctions against Canada. Mr. Major said Canada was "entirely right" in acting to preserve fish stocks, although he cautioned Ottawa against any moves that might "undermine her own good case."

"Good progress is being made and I see no reason why an accommodation can't be struck," he said.

EU officials criticized Britain for undermining EU solidarity, but they acknowledged that other members, including France and Germany, were

striving to avoid sanctions and seek a negotiated settlement. Indeed, the permanent representatives of the 15 EU member states rejected Spain's request to draw up a list of possible retaliatory sanctions.

EU and Canadian officials held two rounds of talks Thursday in Brussels, while Canada's external affairs minister, Andre Ouellet, met in Paris with Foreign Minister Alain Juppé of France.

Marco Zatterin, a spokesman for the EU fisheries commissioner, Emma Bonino, said progress had been made in the three areas targeted by the Europeans: the suspension of a Canadian law permitting seizures outside the country's 200-mile (325-kilometer) coastal limit, a bigger quota for EU fishermen and stricter multilateral inspections to protect against overfishing.

Officials said the two sides were seeking to increase inspections of fishing vessels at sea and in port, as well as using satellites to monitor the fishing areas.

Any quota agreement would very likely grant roughly 40 percent of the allowable halibut catch each to Canada and the Union. A February decision to give the Europeans just 12 percent of the catch set off the current dispute, which included Canada's seizure of a Spanish vessel on March 9 and the cutting of nets on a boat *Sunfish* in international waters.

In its letter to Ottawa, the commission attacked the net-cutting as an "illegal and unacceptable act" that was undermining international efforts to save fish stocks.

The letter was sent by the commission after Britain blocked an attempt to send the letter on behalf of each of the Union's 15 member states.

Sudan Rebels Also Call a Cease-Fire

Agence France-Press

NAIROBI — Sudanese rebels declared a two-month cease-fire on Thursday to match a government truce announced after mediation by former President Jimmy Carter.

The rebel truce was to take effect at 3 P.M. Thursday, the leader of the Sudan People's Liberation Movement, John Garang, said at a news conference here.

"In response to President Jimmy Carter's call for a cease-fire between the SPLA and the Khartoum government, the SPLA declares a unilateral cease-fire," he said.

The president of Sudan, General Omar Hassan Ahmad Bahar, declared a two-month truce on Monday after meeting with Mr. Carter in Khartoum.

Colonel Garang called for international monitors to ensure

that the cease-fire was not violated. "The SPLA will consider any troop movements during this cease-fire period as a violation of the cease-fire, unless there is international monitoring and coordination of such movements," he said.

He added that the cease-fire was intended to enhance the distribution of humanitarian supplies and facilitate vaccination programs.

The 12-year-old civil war has caused widespread famine and killed more than a million people.

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Herald Tribune

THE WORLD'S DAILY NEWSPAPER

Rwandans In Burundi Are Fleeing En Masse

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

BUJUMBURA, Burundi — Up to 40,000 Rwandan Hutu refugees living in camps in Burundi took to the road Thursday seeking refuge in Tanzania because of fears of ethnic unrest, aid groups said.

The medical aid organization Doctors Without Borders said all the Rwandan refugees housed in the Magara camp, in northern Ngozi Province, left in the morning. The camp accommodated about 40,000 Rwandan Hutus.

The UN High Commissioner for Refugees estimated the number of people fleeing Ngozi Province at 20,000 but said that many more were likely to follow.

The exodus was in addition to tens of thousands of Burundians who have fled the central African country to Zaire because of ethnic tension.

Hundreds of people have been killed in Burundi in the past few weeks in clashes that have fueled fears of a scenario similar to Rwanda, where up to one million people were massacred last year.

Aid officials said the flight of the Rwandan refugees from Burundi was probably also linked to the upcoming first anniversary of the death of the presidents of both countries in a plane crash.

That incident on April 6 triggered the Rwandan bloodbath, in which Hutu extremists are blamed for killing from 500,000 to 1 million people, mainly Tutsi and moderate Hutu.

The two countries share the same ethnic makeup, a Tutsi minority and Hutu majority.

The UN High Commissioner for Refugees said that 1,500 Rwandans, who apparently left from northern Burundi on foot late Tuesday, had already arrived at Kiteke camp in eastern Tanzania.

The refugees, mostly Hutu, said they had become alarmed by an armed attack Monday on a camp in Ngozi Province, in which 12 refugees were killed, and by the evacuation of foreigners from Bujumbura after the ethnic violence there last weekend.

(AFP, Reuters)

CONGRESS: Though Beloved by Candidates, Term Limits Fail in House

Continued from Page 1

have set 12-year limits for members of both the House and Senate and would have applied them to current congressmen. That is, anyone who had already served 12 years could not run for re-election. This Democratic-sponsored measure failed with 297 votes against it and 135 for it.

If it had passed the House by the required 290 votes and then the Senate, and won ratification in 38 states, as constitutional amendments must do, 82 members of the 435-member House would have been barred from running next year.

The second measure to fail would have set six-year limits for members of the House and 12-year limits for the Senate.

This proposal lost with 316 members, including 133 Republicans, voting against it and 114, including 96 Republicans, for it.

It was sponsored by Representative Bob Inglis, a second-term Republican from South Carolina, and drew support from among the most militant proponents of term limits.

The third vote to fail would have set 12-year limits for people elected to the House or Senate after the amendment was ratified, and would have allowed states to set even shorter terms. It failed with 164 votes in favor to 265 against. It was sponsored by Representative Van Hilleary, a freshman Republican from Tennessee.

The fourth measure, sponsored by Representative Bill McCollum, Republican of Florida, would have limited members of the House and Senate to 12 years but was silent on any state restrictions. It was defeated with 227 votes in favor, 204 against and 1 voting present.

Just before the fourth and final vote, the House speaker, Newt Gingrich, took the floor to tell members that whether they wanted it or not, term limits would eventually become law because Americans are "sick of professional politicians."

He pledged that if Republicans retained their House majority in the 1996 elections, term limits would be the first item voted on when Congress convened in January 1997.

"In the end," he declared,

"the will of the American people is sovereign."

The drive for term limits has picked up steam only in the last few years, as the public's opinion of Congress has plunged. The Constitutional Convention in 1787 rejected term limits. Throughout most of the 1800s, congressional service was viewed as unappealing and turnover was high.

In the first half of this century, the length of service started to increase as the powers of Congress grew. After World War II, when the United States became a superpower, Washington became a much more important place, and members wanted to stay longer.

The average length of service in the early 1950s was seven years; today it is 11 years.

Miami Wins Contest for Military Base

By Eric Schmitt
New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — In a decision that could bring 1,500 new jobs and thousands of additional visitors to Florida, the Pentagon has selected Miami as the next headquarters for U.S. military activities in Latin America.

The announcement was timed to coincide with President Bill Clinton's arrival in Tallahassee, Florida's capital, Wednesday evening.

Florida, which will have 25 electoral votes in the 1996 presidential election, had powerful congressional support for two of the six candidate cities the Defense Department was considering: Miami and Tampa.

Military officials said they decided on Miami after considering the cost, quality of life for military personnel and the city's standing as a cultural, business and transportation hub of the Americas.

Miami civic leaders have estimated that the new headquarters would provide 1,500 new jobs, 10,000 additional visitors a year and a five-year infusion of \$100 million into the local economy.

Besides Miami and Tampa, the Defense Department was also considering New Orleans, Atlanta, Washington and Puerto Rico.



Cardinals Joseph Ratzinger and Florentino Angelini at the Vatican on Thursday during the delivery of the papal message.

LIFE: Pope, in Strong Language, Condemns Abortion and Euthanasia

Continued from Page 1

purpose of the life of the weakest and most defenseless members, from the unborn child to the elderly, in the name of a public interest which is really nothing but the interest of one part."

For the first time in an encyclical, the highest form of papal messages and which require the obedience of all Catholics, the Pope sets out guidelines for legislators, public officials, doctors and nurses who find their religious beliefs at odds with civic laws.

"No circumstance, no purpose, no law whatsoever can ever make licit an act

which is intrinsically illicit, since it is contrary to the law of God, which is written in every human heart, knowable by reasons itself, and proclaimed by the church," he said.

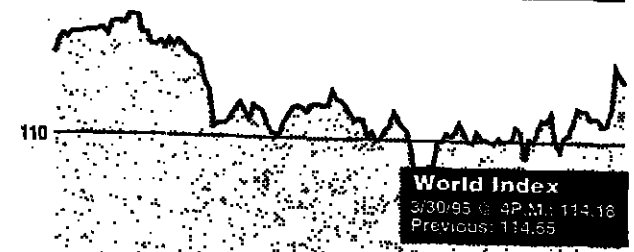
"Christians, like all people of goodwill, are called upon under grave obligation of conscience not to cooperate formally in practices which, even if permitted by civil legislation, are contrary to God's law," he said.

Resisting an injustice is "not only a moral duty, it is also a basic human right," he said, which on questions of abortion

and euthanasia should be legally guaranteed to "physicians, health-care personnel, directors of hospitals, clinics and convalescent facilities."

Although canonical law now calls for excommunication for those who knowingly participate in abortions, Cardinal Alfonso Lopez Trujillo said Thursday that Catholic legislators would not face excommunication if they voted for bills legalizing abortion. He added, however, that their "moral and historical responsibility" would be greater than that of a woman who undergoes abortion.

THE TRIB INDEX: 114.18
International Herald Tribune World Stock Index, composed of 280 internationally investable stocks from 25 countries, compiled by Bloomberg Business News, Jan. 1, 1992 = 100.



World Index
3/30/95 @ 4P.M.: 114.18
Previous: 114.55

Asia/Pacific
Approx. weighting: 32%
@ 4P.M.: 124.59 Prev.: 125.44

Europe
Approx. weighting: 37%
@ 4P.M.: 120.58 Prev.: 120.53

North America
Approx. weighting: 20%
@ 4P.M.: 104.51 Prev.: 104.65

Latin America
Approx. weighting: 5%
@ 4P.M.: 73.99 Prev.: 74.70

Industrial Sectors

	Thurs. 3/30	Wed. 3/29	Change		Thurs. 3/30	Wed. 3/29	Change
Energy	117.01	116.86	+0.15	Capital Goods	115.57	116.40	-0.83
Utilities	117.20	117.80	-0.60	Raw Materials	126.40	126.44	-0.04
Finance	112.57	113.50	-0.93	Consumer Goods	110.65	111.24	-0.59
Services	111.37	111.42	-0.05	Miscellaneous	120.24	119.23	+1.01

The index tracks U.S. dollar value of stocks in Tokyo, New York, London, and other major markets. The index is composed of the 20 top issues in terms of market capitalization, otherwise the top 100 issues are tracked.

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Japan's Rush to Deregulate Shifts Into Slow Motion

By Steven Brill
International Herald Tribune

TOKYO—Two years ago, after the Liberal Democrats lost their decade-long grip on power, there was genuine hope that Japan would begin to deregulate its rule-bound economy. Deregulation was pitched as the key to lowering sky-high prices for consumers, preparing industry for the 21st century and improving foreign access to Japanese markets.

But on Friday, as a new coalition government announces a long-awaited five-year deregulation plan, hope for significant progress is virtually absent, even though the soaring yen has highlighted the urgency of reform.

"It's too little, too slow," complained Shojiro Makino, a director of Grace Japan K.K. and a member of a private-sector deregulation review committee that reports to the prime minister.

"There's a lack of clear timetables and action plans. Everything is subject to review and approval," said Mr. Makino, who represented the American Chamber of Commerce on the committee.

Without doubt, the past two years have made deregulation an article of faith in Japan. In public, hardly a single bureaucrat, businessman or politician is opposed to deregulation in principle.

"It's like a mantra," said Don Kimball, senior economist at Mitsubishi Bank. "People keep on saying it, hoping it's going to elevate the economy."

In private, though, it is clear that there remains little consensus on what should be deregulated. Bureaucrats, of course, continue to fight attempts to lessen their powers.

But even industry is of two minds. Many companies hurt by the strong yen are lobbying for measures that would lower their costs of doing business. But they continue to resist moves

that would reduce their margins and prices to consumers.

"They're all saying somebody else should be deregulated but me," said an official at the U.S. Embassy in Tokyo.

There is also a growing group of companies, including foreign concerns that have become deeply entrenched in Japan, that is having second thoughts. "Some people are beginning to wonder why we should open up and face stronger competition from abroad," Mr. Makino said.

Japanese politicians would normally be expected to play the role of pushing the process forward. But the Socialists, whose leader, Prime Minister Tomichi Murayama, heads the coalition dominated by the Liberal Democrats, are loath to deregulate agriculture, distribution and other industries that are central to their constituency.

Indeed, the only areas of consensus are those such as telecommunications, where fears of falling behind the United States have motivated industry and

bureaucracy alike. The government, for instance, is liberalizing access to private telecommunications networks to telephone lines owned by Nippon Telephone & Telegraph.

The Friday report is expected to include more than 1,000 measures, but as many as two-thirds of these will be totally without substance, according to Hiroshi Tachibana, an official of Keidanren, Japan's biggest business federation, which has been lobbying for faster deregulation.

According to local press reports, the most significant measure in the Friday package will be a pledge to review the status of holding companies in Japan over the next three years. Holding companies were banned after World War II by American occupying forces, who feared a revival of the zaibatsu, or conglomerates, that dominated the prewar economy. Industry favors lifting of the ban, believing it would facilitate industrial restructuring.

In addition, there will be calls to strengthen Japan's Fair Trade Commission, measures to promote more efficient use of urban farm land, and greater acceptance of promotional give-aways.

But despite heavy pressure, key moves sought by Washington and Brussels are conspicuously absent, notably further liberalization of regulations that restrict the opening and operation of large retail outlets. Instead of abolishing the law, the package is likely only to recommend that regulations be reviewed by the year 2000.

Given the outlook, proponents are hiding their disappointment and planning to greet Friday's package with pledges to keep up pressure on the government.

"Deregulation is an ongoing process," Mr. Tachibana said. "Our goal has been to get as many regulations listed as possible, and then keep up the pressure to see them realized."

'Start' Is Proving True to Its Name

By Brandon Mitchener
International Herald Tribune

AMSTERDAM—When Dutch flower farmers in Aalsmeer, southwest of Amsterdam, could not find enough labor despite high unemployment and the best efforts of the local employment office, they dialed Start, a nonprofit, temporary services agency known for innovative ideas and quick results.

Start studied the situation and found that the main problem was one of logistics. It turned out that Amsterdam was full of low-skilled workers who had been looking for employment for months but did not have any way to get to Aalsmeer, which was poorly connected by public transportation.

The solution was simple, if unconventional. "We provided cars," said Sybe Aitema, general manager of the agency he helped found in 1977. Indeed, Start lent company-owned cars to the workers for the duration of their stints as flower farmers, and even paid part of the operating expenses.

"People thought we were crazy, giving cars to the unemployed, but it worked," said Mr. Aitema.

The story of Aalsmeer's flower farmers is an example of the pragmatic, unorthodox solutions to joblessness that have made Start known throughout Europe.

While the Netherlands itself is no model of full employment—its jobless rate hovers around 9 percent, 44 percent of whom have been out of work for more than a year—Start is universally regarded as a success. With 250 offices, 1,500 employees and annual revenue of more than 800 million guilders (\$519.4 million), it has grown

Second of four articles

to become the country's second-largest temporary-services agency.

Those sent out into the working world by Start are technically employed by Start itself, which receives workers' monthly salaries—plus a 19 percent commission to pay its overhead—from the companies for whom the workers actually toil.

Despite a stated policy to try to help the long-term unemployed, the handicapped, women and minorities—an approach avoided by its private-sector competitors—Start has filled more than 750,000 temporary positions since its founding, about a third of which have led to permanent employment.

The long-term unemployed account for about a quarter of Start's total annual placements of between 80,000 and 100,000 workers, which makes it as ambitious as the government's recently announced plan to create 40,000 public-service jobs for the

long-term, low-skilled unemployed over the next four years.

The Start model is currently being studied or tested in Germany, Slovakia, Austria and Spain, all of which see it as one partial, low-cost solution to the ticking social time bomb of long-term unemployment.

"The advantage is that companies can test people without having to make any contractual commitment," said Wolfgang Franz, a member of Germany's council of economic advisers who teaches labor economics at the University of Konstanz and has pushed Germany to embrace the Start model.

"Personal officers, especially in small companies, say Start spares them the anguish of having to dismiss people they know had previously been unemployed for a long time and would probably end up that way again," Mr. Franz said.

One feature that makes Start unusual is that it accepts no government subsidies, although the government is represented on its board, along with officials from unions and employer associations.

Moreover, surprisingly few companies abuse the six-month limit limitation on "temporary" referrals in order to avoid giving their staffs permanent contracts with benefits. "I only know of one, a bank."

See START, Page 17

Commerzbank Says Trading Loss Hits Profit

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

FRANKFURT—Commerzbank AG, one of Germany's leading banks, said Thursday that a squeeze on trading profit forced 1994 operating profit down 39 percent from 1993, to 692 million Deutsche marks (\$501 million).

The bank previously reported that 1994 net profit rose 80 percent, to 1.06 billion DM, largely owing to the sale of stakes in German retailer Karstadt AG and insurance group DBV Holding.

Commerzbank said income from its own trading plunged 81 percent, to 105 million DM.

"1994 did not fulfill our business expectations," said the chief executive, Martin Kohlhausen. "We had set our goals higher."

But Mr. Kohlhausen said he expected the bank to post "satisfactory" profit in 1995, "barring unforeseen circumstances."

Commerzbank said that 1994 was a difficult year for international capital markets, and this had hit the bank's own-account trading results.

He said stock and bond trading posted a net loss of 84 million DM, while foreign exchange and derivatives trading made "significant gains." Derivatives business alone contributed 57 million DM to trading income, Mr. Kohlhausen said.

The bank said 1995 got off to a slow start, with operating profit down in the first two months, as rising operating costs offset an increase to 43 million DM in trading income. It did not provide comparative figures.

Total assets in 1994 rose to 342.06 billion DM at year end, compared with 285.38 billion posted at end-1993.

Mr. Kohlhausen said the bank expected 1995 risk provisions to fall from a net 1.66 billion DM last year. Domestic provisions remained high, while provisions against losses on international debt were reduced "below 1 billion DM," the bank said.

Net interest income rose 5 percent, to 5.10 billion DM, mainly because of domestic business.

Separately, Commerzbank said it would buy as much as 75 percent of the British fund manager, Jupiter Tyndall Group PLC, in a bid that values the company at £169 million (\$272 million).

Mr. Kohlhausen said he was "convinced" that Jupiter Tyndall's shareholders would accept the offer.

The bank also announced it had raised its stake in Kolbenschmidt AG to 49.9 percent from 24.9 percent.

(AFX, Bloomberg, Knight-Ridder)

WALL STREET WATCH

Nasdaq's Difficult Half-Step

By Floyd Norris
New York Times Service

NEW YORK—Nasdaq is a funny operation. On one hand it is a regulatory organization, supposed to make and enforce rules governing trading. On the other hand, it is a membership organization, with directors chosen by the very people it is trying to regulate.

Make the members happy, and the people running Nasdaq risk alienating the Securities and Exchange Commission. Placate the SEC and the members get surly.

It is that background that should be kept in mind regarding Nasdaq's latest attempt to reform its rules for trading over-the-counter stocks. The new system, announced with great fanfare last week, is supposed to make it easier for individuals to trade at better prices. But it shows signs of having been tailored to keep the members happy.

It is the Nasdaq members—mostly the market makers—who have profited from a system that has made it extremely difficult for individual investors to trade with each other.

You want to buy? Buy from the market maker. You want to sell? Sell to the market maker. He lives on the spread between the two prices.

The new system will make it easier for brokers to let customers trade directly with each other, but there is no guarantee that will happen. A market maker may choose to fill an order in the new system, or he may choose to ignore it.

Say you bid to buy a stock at \$20, a bit more than the \$19.875 price the brokers are offering to pay, and the order goes into the new system. In the jargon of the market, you

have entered a limit order, so called because you put a limit on the price at which you would trade.

There may be a spate of trades at that price, as broker after broker buys at that price. But there is no requirement that anyone execute your trade. What is new here, and good, is that such a requirement would come into play if a broker bought stock at a lower price.

The risk, says David Whitcomb, a Rutgers finance professor who specializes in the microstructure of securities markets, is that limit orders will never be executed.

Or worse, they will be executed only if the market is moving the wrong way. So if it looks like the stock is going down, they will let you buy first. If that is what happens, investors would quickly learn that to place a limit order into the system would be foolish. If the stock goes down, you get stuck buying before it does so. If it goes up, you are frozen out.

Rick Ketchum, Nasdaq's chief operating officer, dismisses that possibility, and says he is confident that market makers will execute such trades. Why not just let the system go into effect, he asks, and see whose forecast is correct?

On the other hand, why not put in a rule that "the customer comes first?" If you send a limit order to the floor of the New York Stock Exchange, the specialist cannot trade for his own account at that price before the customer gets his stock. A similar rule here, Mr. Ketchum fears, would just drive market makers out of the market.

He may have a point. Nasdaq would never have come this far on the road to reform without heavy pressure from Arthur Levitt, the chairman of the SEC.

France Sets Strong Franc Deflates Probe of Earnings at Swissair

The Associated Press

PARIS—Jean-Dominique Deschamps, deputy managing director of Compagnie Generale des Eaux, was placed under formal investigation on suspicion of influence peddling, falsification, use of falsified documents and corruption by the Paris magistrate Jacqueline Meysson, judicial sources said Thursday.

The executive was allowed to leave the Paris court late Thursday afternoon after being held 48 hours by police for questioning in an inquiry into suspected political financing.

The magistrate was investigating some 14 million francs (\$2.9 million) paid, according to judicial sources, by the private water supply and sewerage utility to a research firm close to the Communist party, which controls several important municipal councils in France.

Général des Eaux said last July, when Justice Minister Pierre Méhaignerie ordered the inquiry, that the payments were for "real and justified services."

There have been allegations that French political parties have used consultancy firms to receive payments from companies, notably suppliers of services to local authorities.

ZURICH—The Swissair group said Thursday that net profit in 1994 slumped to 23 million Swiss francs (\$20.3 million), down from 59 million in 1993.

The group, which includes the shareholder-owned national airline, blamed the result on the strength of the Swiss franc and said it would not pay a dividend for the second straight year. Operating revenue was 6.45 billion francs, slightly higher than in 1993.

Swissair said there had been large increases in passenger numbers but that these had been offset by currency exchange-rate fluctuations. Net profit from the airline alone was 3 million francs, down from 7 million francs in 1993.

A strong franc means that earnings on foreign markets are worth less in Swiss currency. The franc rose nearly 14 percent against the U.S. dollar last year and has risen even further this year, giving rise to fears among many Swiss companies that they will lose foreign customers as their exports become too expensive.

Switzerland's central bank said Thursday that it planned no change in monetary policy, stressing that control of inflation—which is helped by a strong currency—remained the top priority.

CURRENCY & INTEREST RATES

Cross Rates										Eurocurrency Deposits										March 30										
	\$	DM	FF	Yen	DM	FF	Yen	DM	FF	Yen	DM	FF	Yen	DM	FF	Yen	DM	FF	Yen	DM	FF	Yen	DM	FF	Yen	DM	FF	Yen		
Australia	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559		
Canada	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322		
France	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366		
Germany	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366		
Italy	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366		
Japan	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366		
UK	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366		
Spain	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366		
Sweden	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366		
Switzerland	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366		
Other Dollar Values																														
Australia	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559		
Canada	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322		
France	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366		
Germany	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366		
Italy	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366		
Japan	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366		
UK	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366		
Spain	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366		
Sweden	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366		
Switzerland	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366		
Forward Rates										Eurocurrency Deposits										March 30										
	30-day	60-day	90-day	180-day	360-day	30-day	60-day	90-day	180-day	360-day	30-day	60-day	90-day	180-day	360-day	30-day	60-day	90-day	180-day	360-day	30-day	60-day	90-day	180-day	360-day	30-day	60-day	90-day	180-day	360-day
Australia	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559
Canada	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322
France	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366
Germany	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366
Italy	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366
Japan	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366
UK	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366
Spain	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366
Sweden	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366
Switzerland	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366
Other Dollar Values																														
Australia	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559	1.559
Canada	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322	1.322
France	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366
Germany	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366
Italy	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.366	1.																	

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THE AMERICAS

Cyclical Issues Help Power Wall Street

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches
NEW YORK — Stocks rose Thursday as cyclical issues, such as paper and auto company shares, attracted buyers more than technical issues, which fell on profit-taking, analysts said.

U.S. Stocks

Investor sentiment toward the broader market and partly eclipsed a German interest rate cut, which lifted the dollar, traders said.

The Dow Jones industrial average closed 11.76 points higher at 4,172.56.

Advancing shares on the New York Stock Exchange outpaced losers by a 3-to-2 margin.

The price of the 30-year benchmark Treasury bond dropped 13/32, to 102 19/32, to hit the yield to 7.41 percent from 7.37 percent Wednesday.

Intel fell 3 1/16, to \$4. Texas Instruments was down 6 1/4, to \$8, and Micron Technology slid 1/4, to 74 1/2. IBM dropped 1/4, to \$114. Hewlett-Packard fell 2 1/4, to \$194.

The Bundesbank interest rate

cut on Thursday helped equities. "The Germans cutting their rates and taking pressure off the dollar here is clearly a positive," one analyst said. "Alleviating concern over the dollar over the short term will be interpreted by U.S. investors as positive for stocks," partly because they will look more attractive to overseas investors.

Stocks of cyclical companies climbed for a second day as investors anticipated a longer economic expansion, while makers of consumer goods once again lagged.

International Paper added 1 1/4, to 75 1/4. Georgia-Pacific jumped 2, to 80 1/4. Champion spurred 1 1/4, to 42 1/4, and Mead increased 1 1/4, to 54 1/4.

(Bloomberg, Reuters)

To Our Readers

Because of the seven-hour time difference between New York and Paris until April 3, the U.S. stock tables, the U.S. Futures prices and some other items in this edition are from 3 P.M. New York time instead of the usual 4 P.M.

The change is necessary to meet distribution requirements. Most editions will again carry closing prices and indices after April 3, when Daylight Saving time begins in the United States.

U.S. Cuts Long-Distance Call Charges

By Edmund L. Andrews
New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — The Federal Communications Commission ordered U.S. long-distance telephone companies Thursday to reduce the access charges they impose on long-distance carriers by about \$1 billion a year for the next few years, agency officials said on Wednesday.

The rate cuts translate into one of the biggest single reductions in long-distance telephone prices since the breakup of the Bell System 10 years ago. Consumers are likely to feel some of the impact in lower long-distance prices, though long-distance carriers like AT&T Corp., MCI Telecommunications Corp. and Sprint Corp. will try to keep as much of the reduction for themselves as the market will allow.

The access charges that the carriers pay to connect to local telephone networks constitute about 40 percent of the cost of a long-distance call and total about \$27 billion a

year. Access charges are also the biggest source of profit for local telephone companies, and the rates have come down very gradually over the last decade.

A typical long-distance call from New York to Los Angeles costs from 10 to 27 cents a minute, depending on the time of day and a customer's discounts. But long-distance carriers must pay about 4 cents a minute to each local phone company on either end of the conversation — 8 cents a minute all told.

Consumer advocacy groups and the long-distance carriers have been lobbying the government for months to push these prices down sharply, charging that the regional Bell companies have been able to enrich themselves unfairly.

Government officials, speaking on the condition of anonymity, said the new rules reduce these local charges about 4 percent a year for the next few years. That reduction would roughly double the average decline in access charges in recent years, they said.

Did Sexual Harassment Cost Grace CEO His Job?

By Diana B. Henriques
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — When J.P. Bolduc resigned unexpectedly March 2 as chief executive of W.R. Grace & Co., the company attributed his departure to "differences of style and philosophy." Later, it was cast by Mr. Bolduc's supporters as corporate retribution for his insistence on firing the Grace family's perquisites and consulting deals.

Now it seems that the powerful and effective chief executive resigned under pressure for far different reasons. According to a draft of Grace's preliminary proxy

statement, the company is attributing Mr. Bolduc's departure to allegations of sexual harassment against him by employees.

The disclosure transforms what was already a bare-knuckled fight for control of a \$5 billion company into a drama that touches on the emotionally sensitive issue of sexual harassment in the workplace.

The case is apparently the first in which a major U.S. corporation cited sexual harassment complaints in the departure of a chief executive, women's advocacy groups said.

For Grace shareholders, the new explanation of the departure adds to the confusion and anxiety over the company's future. J. Peter Grace Jr., the longtime chairman, was

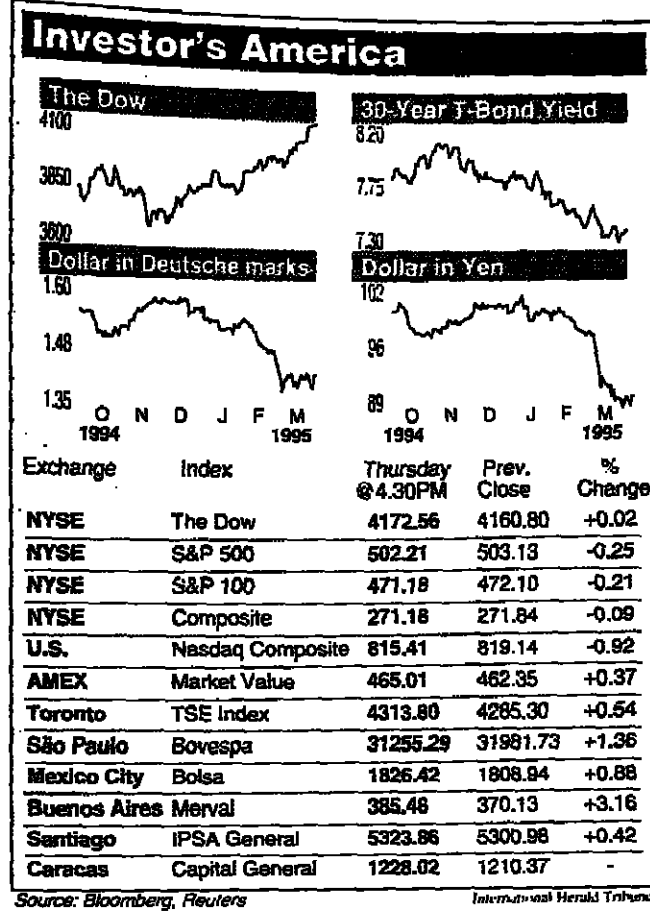
forced to resign March 17 by institutional investors dismayed by Mr. Bolduc's ouster.

Gerald Walpin, a lawyer for Mr. Bolduc, said that his client "categorically, unequivocally and vehemently denies that he ever engaged in any act of sexual harassment."

He said the preliminary proxy statement was "not fully checked for accuracy."

Mr. Walpin said Mr. Bolduc might sue Grace over the charge, Bloomberg Business News reported Thursday from Florida.

According to people familiar with the board's deliberations, Mr. Bolduc was accused of making suggestive remarks and engaging in unwelcome physical contact repeatedly with at least five women staffers.



Very briefly:

Ingersoll Sued Over Hostile Clark Bid

WOODCLIFF LAKE, New Jersey (Reuters) — Ingersoll-Rand Co. said Thursday that Clark Equipment Co. had filed a lawsuit against it, alleging that Clark would violate U.S. antitrust laws if it succeeded in its hostile proposal to acquire Clark.

Ingersoll termed the suit — filed in a New York U.S. District Court — a "diversionary tactic."

Ingersoll said earlier this week that it wanted to buy Clark for between \$75 and \$77 per share in cash. Clark said it wanted to remain independent and termed the offer inadequate.

Banc One Has Large Derivatives Loss

COLUMBUS, Ohio (Bloomberg) — Banc One Corp. said Thursday that it had \$1.3 billion of unrealized losses from its derivatives portfolio at the end of 1994, according to a Securities and Exchange Commission filing.

A year earlier, the Columbus, Ohio-based banking company's total derivative portfolio showed a net potential gain of \$217 million, the filing said.

The bank's derivatives portfolio is not likely to undermine its balance sheet, said Glen Grabelsky, an analyst at Standard & Poor's Corp.

The losses are unrealized because Banc One has not sold the derivatives, and they are still outstanding.

Watson Pharmaceuticals Inc. has agreed to buy Ciba Pharmaceuticals Inc. in a stock swap valued at about \$606.8 million.

Tennessee Valley Authority is issuing \$500 million of its first bonds specifically aimed at small retail investors. The electric utility said the 50-year bonds in denominations of \$25 would provide it access to new debt markets.

NTT, Bloomberg, AP/DF

Surprise German Rate Cut Gives the Dollar a Reprieve at Last

By Lawrence Malkin
International Herald Tribune

NEW YORK — The dollar posted a strong rebound on Thursday after Germany's surprise interest rate cut, but there was no evidence that the Bundesbank's move was part of a coordinated effort with the Federal Reserve or the Bank of Japan.

The dollar's surge represented a victory for Treasury Secretary Robert E. Rubin's hands-off policy of allowing an overstrengthened market to snap back and correct itself without supporting

the dollar by direct intervention or a rise in domestic interest rates.

The Treasury and the Fed should now be better able to let the strength of the economy, not the dollar, decide whether U.S. rates need to rise further.

In New York, the dollar rose more than two pence, closing at 1.4090 Deutsche marks, up from 1.3828 DM at the Wednesday close. The dollar rose to 89.605 yen from 88.350.

Against the French franc, the dollar closed at 1.49120 francs, up from 1.48805. It rose to 1.1690 Swiss francs from 1.1425, while the pound fell to \$1.6035 from \$1.6128.

In Washington, the Treasury issued a statement that said the cut "should contribute to sustained expansion in Europe."

Some currency analysts felt the Bundesbank move may restore stability to the currency markets in the medium term.

Foreign Exchange

In the long term, they said, the dollar is still threatened by the U.S. current-account deficit.

Carl Weinberg of High Frequency Economics predicted that the dollar's

prospects would not improve until the United States reduces its current-account deficit, which he said caused the amount of dollars being sold in currency markets to increase by as much as \$150 billion last year. He said that figure was based on keeping changing as long as U.S. investors kept their sawdust taste for investment abroad.

Avinash Pershad of J.P. Morgan in London said the Bundesbank's principal goal was to reduce the currency pressures within the European Monetary System, but the effect on Europe's peripheral currencies such as the Spanish peseta and the Italian lira was less

clear, as was the outlook for the dollar.

Kevin Harris of MCM Currencywatch in New York saw relief spreading to those currencies as well as the dollar. He said foreign currency that had flowed into Germany would now flow to its relatively low short-term interest rates and its lagging stock market for Southern Europe.

"These are the ripple effects of the Bundesbank's decision," Mr. Harris said. He added that the Mexican peso strengthened Thursday: the dollar fetched 6.675 pesos at the end of trading, compared to 6.795 on Wednesday.

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

Thursday, March 30					High					Low					Close					Prev.				
Prices in local currencies					High					Low					Close					Prev.				
Amsterdam					Frankfurt					Johannesburg					Kuala Lumpur					London				
ABN-AMRO	38.20	56.80	57.40	56.80	AEG	190	990	990	990	AngloGold	194	192	195	195	AngloGold	194	192	195	195	AngloGold	194	192	195	195
ABN	111.60	110.20	111.20	110.20	AEG	190	990	990	990	AngloGold	194	192	195	195	AngloGold	194	192	195	195	AngloGold	194	192	195	195
ABN	111.60	110.20	111.20	110.20	AEG	190	990	990	990	AngloGold	194	192	195	195	AngloGold	194	192	195	195	AngloGold	194	192	195	195
ABN	111.60	110.20	111.20	110.20	AEG	190	990	990	990	AngloGold	194	192	195	195	AngloGold	194	192	195	195	AngloGold	194	192	195	195
ABN	111.60	110.20	111.20	110.20	AEG	190	990	990	990	AngloGold	194	192	195	195	AngloGold	194	192	195	195	AngloGold	194	192	195	195
ABN	111.60	110.20	111.20	110.20	AEG	190	990	990	990	AngloGold	194	192	195	195	AngloGold	194	192	195	195	AngloGold	194	192	195	195
ABN	111.60	110.20	111.20	110.20	AEG	190	990	990	990	AngloGold	194	192	195	195	AngloGold	194	192	195	195	AngloGold	194	192	195	195
ABN	111.60	110.20	111.20	110.20	AEG	190	990	990	990	AngloGold	194	192	195	195	AngloGold	194	192	195	195	AngloGold	194	192	195	195
ABN	111.60	110.20	111.20	110.20	AEG	190	990	990	990	AngloGold	194	192	195	195	AngloGold	194	192	195	195	AngloGold	194	192	195	195
ABN	111.60	110.20	111.20	110.20	AEG	190	990	990	990	AngloGold	194	192	195	195	AngloGold	194	192	195	195	AngloGold	194	192	195	195
ABN	111.60	110.20	111.20	110.20	AEG	190	990	990	990	AngloGold	194	192	195	195	AngloGold	194	192	195	195	AngloGold	194	192	195	195
ABN	111.60	110.20	111.20	110.20	AEG	190	990	990	990	AngloGold	194	192	195	195	AngloGold	194	192	195	195	AngloGold	194	192	195	195
ABN	111.60	110.20	111.20	110.20	AEG	190	990	990	990	AngloGold	194	192	195	195	AngloGold	194	192	195	195	AngloGold	194	192	195	195
ABN	111.60	110.20	111.20	110.20	AEG	190	990	990	990	AngloGold	194	192	195	195	AngloGold	194	192	195	195	AngloGold	194	192	195	195
ABN	111.60	110.20	111.20	110.20	AEG	190	990	990	990	AngloGold	194	192	195	195	AngloGold	194	192	195	195	AngloGold	194	192	195	195
ABN	111.60	110.20	111.20	110.20	AEG	190	990	990	990	AngloGold	194	192	195	195	AngloGold	194	192	195	195	AngloGold	194	192	195	195
ABN	111.60	110.20	111.20	110.20	AEG	190	990	990	990	AngloGold	194	192	195	195	AngloGold	194	192	195	195	AngloGold	194	192	195	195
ABN	111.60	110.20	111.20	110.20	AEG	190	990	990	990	AngloGold	194	192	195	195	AngloGold	194	192	195	195	AngloGold	194	192	195	195
ABN	111.60	110.20	111.20	110.20	AEG	190	990	990	990	AngloGold	194	192	195	195	AngloGold	194	192	195	195	AngloGold	194	192	195	195
ABN	111.60	110.20	111.20	110.20	AEG	190	990	990	990	AngloGold	194	192	195	195	AngloGold	194	192	195	195	AngloGold	194	192	195	195
ABN	111.60	110.20	111.20	110.20	AEG	190	990	990	990	AngloGold	194	192	195	195	AngloGold	194	192	195	195	AngloGold	194	192	195	195
ABN	111.60	110.20	111.20	110.20	AEG	190	990	990	990	AngloGold	194	192	195	195	AngloGold	194	192	195	195	AngloGold	194	192	195	195
ABN	111.60	110.20	111.20	110.20	AEG	190	990	990	990	AngloGold	194	192	195	195	AngloGold	194	192	195	195	AngloGold	194	192	195	195
ABN	111.60	110.20	111.20	110.20	AEG	190	990	990	990	AngloGold	194	192	195	195	AngloGold	194	192	195	195	AngloGold	194	192	195	195
ABN	111.60	110.20	111.20	110.20	AEG	190	990	990	990	AngloGold	194	192	195	195	AngloGold	194	192	195	195	AngloGold	194	192	195	195
ABN	111.60	110.20	111.20	110.20	AEG	190	990	990	990	AngloGold	194	192	195	195	AngloGold	194	192	195	195	AngloGold	194	192	195	195
ABN	111.60	110.20	111.20	110.20	AEG	190	990	990	990	AngloGold	194	192	195	195	AngloGold	194	192	195	195	AngloGold	194	192	195	195
ABN	111.60	110.20	111.20	110.20	AEG	190	990	990	990	AngloGold	194	19												

EUROPE

BMW Sees Strong Mark Hitting Net

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

MUNICH — Bayerische Motoren Werke AG warned Thursday that the strength of the Deutsche mark could curb profit, despite strong sales in the first quarter and a 35.1 percent profit increase last year. But the German carmaker said it was still on course for satisfactory results this year.

BMW said its group sales surged 50 percent to 1.25 billion DM (\$8.15 billion) in the first quarter, compared with the first three months of last year, mainly because of its acquisition of Rover Group Ltd., which it bought last year.

Excluding Rover, BMW sales rose 13.3 percent to 8.5 billion DM, the company said.

Earlier this month, BMW reported that net profit for 1994 had risen 35 percent, to 697 million Deutsche marks, on sales of 42.125 billion DM.

Bernd Pischetsrieder, the president, said he expected results for the year to be "satisfactory" but stressed that the strength of the mark would constrain profits.

The launch of the new BMW operation in the United States, an increase in purchases in the dollar zone, and currency exchange advantages flowing from Rover do not compensate wholly for the effect of the current value of the dollar, he said.

New models, in particular those from Rover, rising exports and continued development of outside markets, were the main reasons for growth last year and in the first quarter of 1995, the company said.

The company warned that the first-quarter figures should not be used to project year-end results because the year-early figures were disproportionately low because of new product introduction.

Together with Rover, BMW produced 305,000 cars in the first quarter and delivered 263,800, the company said.

Without Rover, production rose to 165,000 cars, from 138,333 in the year-early period, and deliveries were up to 150,000 cars, from 140,019.

Mr. Pischetsrieder said that while he was confident the world's economy would continue to recover in 1995, he was also concerned by higher labor costs from new wage agreements in Germany.

More flexibility in the work force, lower taxes and more integration with other companies in all areas of production was needed to maintain Germany's viability as a base of operations, he said.

BMW's global strategy is an advantage, said Georg Stürzer, an auto analyst with Veritasbank. "They won't be hit as hard as other carmakers by currency turbulence, because they have production where the currencies are weak."

BMW's share closed 1 DM down, at 679. (AP, Bloomberg, AFX)

Swedish Krona Gets a Boost, but Heat Is Still On

By Erik Ipsen
International Herald Tribune

LONDON — The Bundesbank gave Sweden a respite Thursday from the foreign-exchange market's attack on its currency, but traders predicted that the country's debts would maintain a drag on the krona.

Before the German central bank cut interest rates, the Deutsche mark had risen to a record high of 5.3850 kronor Thursday, reacting to fresh evidence of rising Swedish inflation. The record was the second in as many days.

The cut in German rates dramatically reversed the krona's slide, and at the close in Frankfurt, 1 DM fetched 5.3400 kronor. But currency traders predicted the respite would be short-lived.

The expected continuation of the country's weakness threatened the already embattled minority government in Stockholm with the prospect of still higher inflation, slower growth and soaring interest bills on its immense debts.

"It is hard to have a view on the krona except that it will weaken still further," a senior currency trader in Stockholm said. He predicted that it could sink as low as 6 kronor to the mark by the end of the year. Until Stockholm was forced to float the currency in the autumn of 1992, the krona had been pegged at 3.76 to the mark.

Depressing the currency Thursday were new statistics showing that producer price inflation had risen 9.7 percent in the year through February, and that consumer inflation had risen to 2.9 percent, just below the central bank's targeted maximum of 3 percent. Many blamed the weak krona itself for much of the inflation, since it lifted imports costs.

"Frankly, I think that the krona's weakness causes more troubles than it reflects

troubles here in Sweden," Lars Jägers, an economist with the Federation of Swedish Industry, said.

As he sees it, Sweden is now stuck in a catch-22 situation in which each fall in the krona is ultimately met with defensive increases in interest rates that only worsen both the country's budget problems and growth prospects — and in turn force the currency still lower.

By the government's own estimates, the combination of a falling krona and rising interest rates has had a serious impact on a deficit that was already headed for 14 percent of gross domestic product this year. It has calculated that since the start of the year, higher interest rates and the soaring value of the nearly one-third of government debt that is held abroad have added 15 billion kronor to the nearly 180 billion kronor the country expected to need to borrow this year.

While many economists insist that the krona is undervalued, having suffered from stresses in the foreign exchange markets well beyond Stockholm's control, few expect surprise, much less outrage, at the misfortune.

Currency crises are periodic features of life in the global economy, stressed Roy Berg, chief strategist for Credit Lyonnais in Stockholm.

"The important thing is to have good and sound state finances," he said, "and that is what Sweden does not have."

Economists say that even the classic dividend of a weak currency, a boost to export competitiveness, may be wasted on Sweden, since by most accounts Swedish exporters are bumping up against the limits of what they can produce, with capacity utilization rates at 90 percent.

"The export industry simply does not need any more stimulus," Elisabet Astrand, an economist with Svenska Handelsbanken, noted.

Investor's Europe

Frankfurt DAX	London FTSE 100 Index	Paris CAC 40
2150	3200	2000
2100	3125	1925
2050	3050	1850
2000	2975	1775
1950		
1900		
1850		
1800		
1750		
1700		
1650		
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950		
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850		
800		
750		
700		
650		
600		
550		
500		
450		
400		
350		
300		
250		
200		
150		
100		
50		
0		

Source: Reuters

Very briefly:

- North West Water Group PLC said it would pay shareholders a special dividend of 3.8 pence (6 cents) a share and customers an efficiency rebate of £6.50 each. "This is a serious attempt to position our company, with its monopoly utility, as socially responsible and to an extent self-regulating," it said.
- Philips Electronics NV said it was joining Virgin Group PLC, Associated Newspapers, and the regional television station HTV Group PLC in a group bidding for a license to operate Britain's fifth television channel.
- Axa SA, a French insurer, posted an 11 percent increase in 1994 net profit, to 2.27 billion French francs (\$465 million), fueled primarily by higher earnings from its U.S. unit, the Equitable Cos.
- Compagnie Financière de Paribas SA net profit rose 18.4 percent, to 1.715 billion francs in 1994, helped by strong profit growth at its subsidiary Paribas Affaires Industrielles as well as increasing profitability at Compagnie Bancaire.
- Morgan Grenfell Group PLC said 1994 pretax profit at the London-based investment banking arm of Deutsche Bank AG fell 36 percent, to £150.2 million, as a plunge in income from trading stocks and bonds overshadowed gains in fees and commissions.
- Bank Austria, the country's largest bank, said group net profit fell 19 percent, to 1.14 billion schillings (\$117 million), amid sluggish demand for new loans and a slump in securities trading.
- Copenhagen Airports AS increased 1994 net profit 25 percent, to 180 million kroner (\$33 million), as traffic rose 1.2 million passengers, to 14.1 million, in 1994, the largest rise in its 70-year history.
- Swiss average gross domestic product growth in 1995 is expected to be a "good 2 percent," and 1995 inflation is expected to show an average 3 percent annual rise, the Swiss National Bank said.
- Telefónica de España SA said it would pay a total gross dividend on 1994 results of 66 pesetas, up from 62 pesetas in 1993.
- Swedish producer prices rose 0.9 percent in February from January and climbed 9.7 percent during the year.
- Trelleborg AB said the Swedish mining and metals company returned to a profit of 904 million kroner (\$123 million) after a loss of 1.52 billion kroner.

Reuters, Bloomberg, AFX, AFP, Knight-Ridder

ING Net Rises 13% Despite Peso's Crisis

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

AMSTERDAM — Internationale Nederlanden Groep NV reported Thursday that 1994 net profit rose 13 percent, to 2.30 billion guilders (\$1.49 billion) from 2.03 billion in 1993.

The Dutch financial institution said its nonlife insurance business boomed. But the profit picture was clouded by a 96 percent drop in trading income.

ING lost money on trading Latin American debt. It said the devaluation of the Mexican peso hurt results in the final quarter.

The company proposed a dividend of 3.75 guilders per share, up from 3.49 guilders for 1993.

ING bought most of Barings PLC last month, following the British bank's collapse due to bad futures bets by a Singapore dealer, Nicholas Leeson.

ING said the acquisition would "have a neutral effect on the profit for the 1995 financial year and a positive effect on earnings per share for subsequent years."

But its 1.7 billion guilder investment in Barings would result in write-offs of around 1.2 billion guilder, ING said.

(Bloomberg, AP, AFX, Reuters)

Dividend Cut Hurts Redland

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

LONDON — Redland PLC posted a 34 percent rise in 1994 pretax profit Thursday, but the company's shares fell following a sharp cut in its annual dividend.

Improved demand for building materials in Europe helped Redland post pretax profit of £373 million (\$600 million), up from £278.9 million in 1993. Revenue rose 12 percent to £2.78 billion. Redland said operating margins rose to 14 percent from 12.3 percent.

Redland, the largest British producer of building materials, said it must increase investment in new products and expansion if it hopes to ease its dependence on success in Germany, which now accounts for half its operating profit. To free up

cash, the company cut its dividend by a third, to 11.17 pence per share from 16.75 pence.

Redland stock fell 19 pence, or 4 percent, to 466 pence.

In another effort to help its bottom line, Redland doubled the amount of money it takes from its German unit, Brask GmbH. When Brask was spending heavily on investments in Eastern Germany, Redland took about a third of its profits. In 1994, with much of that investment complete, Redland took 63 percent of the profit.

Redland also sold its stake in an Australian roofing and brick business, Monier PGH Ltd., to CSR Ltd. for 195 million Australian dollars (\$141 million). The company put other businesses up for sale.

The dividend cut, asset sales, redistribution of German earn-

ings and debt reduction were expected to boost earnings per share by 10 percent, with about a third of that reflected in the 1994 results, the company said.

(Bloomberg, AFX)

BAe Sets Rights Issue

British Aerospace PLC said Thursday it would use a two-part rights offer to raise up to £383 million toward a potential cash purchase of VSEL PLC if the Monopolies and Mergers Commission lets it bid for the British warship builder, Bloomberg Business News reported from London.

The commission is examining whether the rival offers for VSEL from British Aerospace and General Electric Co. of Britain have antitrust implications. A decision is expected in April.

CarnaudMetalbox Posts a Rise in Profit

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

PARIS — CarnaudMetalbox SA said Thursday its 1994 net profit rose 14 percent as the company benefited from a restructuring program and from reduced tax and financial charges.

The British-French packaging and container company said it earned a net profit of 950 million French francs (\$195 million), compared with 835 million a year earlier.

Revenue rose 2 percent in 1994, to 24.89 billion francs, while operating profit increased 7 percent, to 2.2 billion francs.

CarnaudMetalbox raised its dividend to 4.4 francs a share from 4 francs. The company's shares rose 2 francs to 182 francs.

The company's chief executive, Jürgen Hintz, said the results were "encouraging."

His efforts to reorganize, the company has focused on improved inventory control, closing factories and shedding 5 percent of its work force.

A 742-million-franc reduction in debt lowered the impact of financial costs, restructuring charges were lower and tax payments fell to 16 percent from 22 percent.

"Some of our raw material costs have shown steep year-on-year increases, although the trend appears to be leveling off," he added.

As world commodity prices shift, CarnaudMetalbox is considering conversion of can production as its customers consider switching to cheaper steel from aluminum. (Bloomberg, Reuters)

INTERNATIONAL FUTURES

High	Low	Open	Close	Opt
Grains				
CORN (CBOT)				
May 95	2.00	2.00	2.00	100.00
Jul 95	2.00	2.00	2.00	100.00
Oct 95	2.00	2.00	2.00	100.00
Dec 95	2.00	2.00	2.00	100.00
Feb 96	2.00	2.00	2.00	100.00
Apr 96	2.00	2.00	2.00	100.00
Jun 96	2.00	2.00	2.00	100.00
Aug 96	2.00	2.00	2.00	100.00
Oct 96	2.00	2.00	2.00	100.00
Dec 96	2.00	2.00	2.00	100.00
Feb 97	2.00	2.00	2.00	100.00
Apr 97	2.00	2.00	2.00	100.00
Jun 97	2.00	2.00	2.00	100.00
Aug 97	2.00	2.00	2.00	100.00
Oct 97	2.00	2.00	2.00	100.00
Dec 97	2.00	2.00	2.00	100.00
Feb 98	2.00	2.00	2.00	100.00
Apr 98	2.00	2.00	2.00	100.00
Jun 98	2.00	2.00	2.00	100.00
Aug 98	2.00	2.00	2.00	100.00
Oct 98	2.00	2.00	2.00	100.00
Dec 98	2.00	2.00	2.00	100.00
Feb 99	2.00	2.00	2.00	100.00
Apr 99	2.00	2.00	2.00	100.00
Jun 99	2.00	2.00	2.00	100.00
Aug 99	2.00	2.00	2.00	100.00
Oct 99	2.00	2.00	2.00	100.00
Dec 99	2.00	2.00	2.00	100.00
Feb 00	2.00	2.00	2.00	100.00
Apr 00	2.00	2.00	2.00	100.00
Jun 00	2.00	2.00	2.00	100.00
Aug 00	2.00	2.00	2.00	100.00
Oct 00	2.00	2.00	2.00	100.00
Dec 00	2.00	2.00	2.00	100.00
Feb 01	2.00	2.00	2.00	100.00
Apr 01	2.00	2.00	2.00	100.00
Jun 01	2.00	2.00	2.00	100.00
Aug 01	2.00	2.00	2.00	100.00
Oct 01	2.00	2.00	2.00	100.00
Dec 01	2.00	2.00	2.00	100.00
Feb 02	2.00	2.00	2.00	100.00
Apr 02	2.00	2.00	2.00	100.00
Jun 02	2.00	2.00	2.00	100.00
Aug 02	2.00	2.00	2.00	100.00
Oct 02	2.00	2.00	2.00	100.00
Dec 02	2.00	2.00	2.00	100.00
Feb 03	2.00	2.00	2.00	100.00
Apr 03	2.00	2.00	2.00	100.00
Jun 03	2.00	2.00	2.00	100.00
Aug 03	2.00	2.00	2.00	100.00
Oct 03	2.00	2.00	2.00	100.00
Dec 03	2.00	2.00	2.00	100.00
Feb 04	2.00	2.00	2.00	100.00
Apr 04	2.00	2.00	2.00	100.00
Jun 04	2.00	2.00	2.00	100.00
Aug 04	2.00	2.00	2.00	100.00
Oct 04	2.00	2.00	2.00	100.00
Dec 04	2.00	2.00	2.00	100.00
Feb 05	2.00	2.00	2.00	100.00
Apr 05	2.00	2.00	2.00	100.00
Jun 05	2.00	2.00	2.00	100.00
Aug 05	2.00	2.00	2.00	100.00
Oct 05	2.00	2.00	2.00	100.00
Dec 05	2.00	2.00	2.00	100.00
Feb 06	2.00	2.00	2.00	100.00
Apr 06	2.00	2.00	2.00	100.00
Jun 06	2.00	2.00	2.00	100.00
Aug 06	2.00	2.00	2.00	100.00
Oct 06	2.00	2.00	2.00	100.00
Dec 06	2.00	2.00	2.00	100.00
Feb 07	2.00	2.00	2.00	100.00
Apr 07	2.00	2.00	2.00	100.00
Jun 07	2.00	2.00	2.00	100.00
Aug 07	2.00	2.00	2.00	100.00
Oct 07	2.00	2.00	2.00	100.00
Dec 07	2.00	2.00	2.00	100.00
Feb 08	2.00	2.00	2.00	100.00
Apr 08	2.00	2.00	2.00	100.00
Jun 08	2.00	2.00	2.00	100.00
Aug 08	2.00	2.00	2.00	100.00
Oct 08	2.00	2.00	2.00	100.00
Dec 08	2.00	2.00	2.00	100.00
Feb 09	2.00	2.00	2.00	100.00
Apr 09	2.00	2.00	2.00	100.00
Jun 09	2.00	2.00	2.00	100.00
Aug 09	2.00	2.00	2.00	100.00
Oct 09	2.00	2.00	2.00	100.00
Dec 09	2.00	2.00	2.00	100.00
Feb 10	2.00	2.00	2.00	100.00
Apr 10	2.00	2.00	2.00	100.00
Jun 10	2.00	2.00	2.00	100.00
Aug 10	2.00	2.00	2.00	100.00
Oct 10	2.00	2.00	2.00	100.00
Dec 10	2.00	2.00	2.00	100.00
Feb 11	2.00	2.00	2.00	100.00
Apr 11	2.00	2.00	2.00	100.00
Jun 11	2.00	2.00	2.00	100.00
Aug 11	2.00	2.00	2.00	100.00
Oct 11	2.00	2.00	2.00	100.00
Dec 11	2.00	2.00	2.00	100.00
Feb 12	2.00	2.00		

Thursday's 4 p.m. Close
 Nationwide prices, not reflecting late trade elsewhere.
 The Associated Press

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ASIA/PACIFIC

Farewell to Hong Kong

Jardine Units Raise Profit Before Delisting

Bloomberg Business News

HONG KONG — Two premier units of the Jardine Matheson group reported higher 1994 profit on Thursday, one bolstered by rising commercial rents and the other by decreased competition in Hong Kong's luxury-hotel sector.

Hongkong Land Holdings Ltd., landlord for many of the territory's most prestigious office towers and shopping centers, said its 1994 net profit climbed by 19.2 percent, to \$365.5 million, helped by increased rental income. Analysts had forecast a 22 percent increase.

"Rental levels in Hong Kong are likely to weaken in 1995 and property values are expected to decline from the record levels reached in 1994," said Simon Keswick, the company's chairman. Rental income, however, would continue to rise as tenants renewed leases at higher rates, he said.

Earnings per share in 1994 rose by 22 cents to 13.9 cents. Given that performance, the company said it would lift its full-year dividend to 11.5 cents from 10.0 cents.

Hongkong Land released its results after the Hong Kong markets closed. Its shares closed at 16.55 Hong Kong dollars (\$2.14), up 25 cents. The shares were to stop trading in the territory on Friday and to begin trading in Singapore. They also trade in London.

The delisting is in line with previous decisions by other members of the Jardine Matheson group.

Some analysts have said the moves represent a lack of confidence in Hong Kong's future under Chinese rule, which begins in 1997.

Hongkong Land's average rental income for office space in Hong Kong rose 10.6 percent, to \$6.46 per square foot (\$69.50 per square meter), while rental

income for retail space rose 3.6 percent, to \$13.91 per square foot.

Separately, Mandarin Oriental International Ltd., the luxury-hotel group, said its net profit rose 20.1 percent in 1994 as increased earnings at two Hong Kong hotels offset reduced contributions from properties in Southeast Asia. Profit after tax and minority interests for the year ended Dec. 31 was \$49 million, compared with \$40.8 million in 1993.

Sales increased 15.4 percent, to \$183.4 million, while earnings per share rose 19 percent, to 7.13 cents.

"The situation in Hong Kong is that so many hotels have been closed down for redevelopment, the cyclical downturn has been delayed," said Carl Wong, a hotel-industry analyst at James Capel & Co. (Asia).

The hotel group was also to delist its shares from the Hong Kong stock exchange beginning Friday. They fell 5 cents to close at 9.90 dollars in Hong Kong on Thursday.

Mr. Keswick, who is also chairman of Mandarin Oriental, said: "The group's Hong Kong hotels should continue their strong performance in 1995 and some improvement is expected in other markets."

Pretax profit from hotels in Hong Kong and Macao surged 39 percent, to \$45.3 million, 72.6 percent of the overall total. The company also said contributions had improved from Oriental hotels in Bangkok and in Singapore.

It's probably the biggest piece of property news since the government took measures to curb speculation," said Tim Shaler, a property consultant. (Bloomberg, Knight-Ridder)

(Bloomberg, Knight-Ridder)

U.S. and Japan Trade Barbs After Talks Founder

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

TOKYO — Both U.S. and Japanese officials were talking tough again Thursday after negotiations this week on auto trade appeared to widen rather than narrow their differences. "Japan has made many proposals to settle this issue based on international rules and market mechanisms," a Japanese trade official said. "But if the United States persists with demands which contravene such principles, we will never finish these talks," he added.

U.S. and Japanese negotiators wound up three days of talks in Tokyo on Wednesday on the divisive issue of opening Japan's auto market to more imports. Takakazu Kuriyama, Japan's ambassador to the United States, said the positions of the two sides remained "quite different."

The Japanese trade official said: "If the United States imposes trade sanctions, we will appeal to the WTO, and we are 100 percent certain America will be found guilty." The World Trade Organization is the trade body that succeeded the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.

In Atlanta, U.S. Trade Representative Mickey Kantor said Japan's economy was closed and discriminated against U.S. car exports, and said market barriers were one reason for the dollar's recent slide against the yen.

"They have an unfair advantage and that is affecting the dollar," Mr. Kantor told Cable News Network. "The fact is the Japanese have a closed economy."

Japanese negotiators are especially dismayed over what they said were fresh demands concerning deregulation of Japan's spare car parts market, currently the focus of a U.S. probe under Section 301 of U.S. trade law and a possible target of sanctions.

Autos and auto parts account for about 60 percent of Japan's trade surplus with the United States, which totaled \$66 billion last year.

Tomio Tsutsumi, a vice minister of the Ministry for International Trade and Industry, on Thursday denied a media report that Washington had informed Tokyo it was changing the deadline for completing the Section 301 investigation to early May from the original Sept. 30 cutoff.

The Japanese trade official said Tokyo did not care either way. (Reuters, Bloomberg, W.F.)

Recovery In Japan Rolls Along

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

TOKYO — Industrial production rose a healthy 1.9 percent in February from January, the Ministry of International Trade and Industry reported Thursday, dampening speculation that the Bank of Japan would cut interest rates to spur a lull in recovery.

The strong results are a sign the Japanese economy is still recovering from its worst downturn since World War II — this despite the massive earthquake in Kobe in January. It was the first rise in factory output in three months.

Brian Rose, an economist at S.G. Warburg Securities, said the rise in output "is a sign that the manufacturing industry is very healthy." He added that the report "argues strongly against lower rates."

Consumer spending, housing construction and government spending have all been weak in recent months, causing some economists to think the recovery had lost steam.

With these upbeat results, however, economists said the Bank of Japan would be disinclined to ease credit to boost the economy or weaken the persistent strength of the yen.

A strong yen is a burden for Japan's exporters since they must buy yen with foreign currencies in order to repatriate their profits.

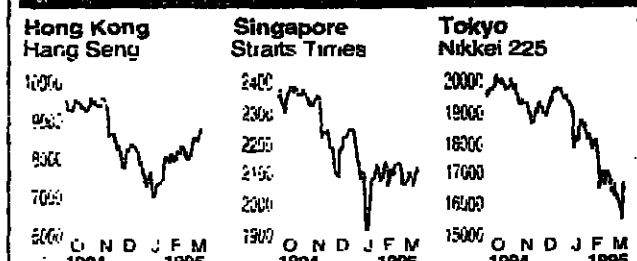
"It's widely perceived in the market that the Bank of Japan attaches a lot of importance to this release," said Andrew Shipley of Lehman Brothers.

MITI officials said the recent sudden rise of the yen to record highs against the dollar was likely to hurt manufacturers.

"We are quite worried about the yen's strength," said Harumi Takahashi, a ministry official. "It may affect corporate sentiment negatively and throw cold water on capital spending."

"Just when it appeared that the economy was finally recovering — although somewhat weakly — the earthquake struck and the yen appreciated suddenly," Ms. Takahashi said. (Bloomberg, Knight-Ridder)

Investor's Asia



Exchange	Index	Thursday Close	Prev. Close	% Change
Hong Kong	Hang Seng	8,676.17	8,732.45	-0.64
Singapore	Straits Times	2,101.83	2,122.41	-0.97
Sydney	All Ordinaries	1,884.80	1,893.00	-0.44
Tokyo	Nikkei 225	16,512.20	16,460.73	+0.31
Kuala Lumpur	Composite	979.66	987.71	-0.82
Bangkok	SET	1,220.72	1,229.70	-0.73
Seoul	Composite Index	926.93	936.44	-1.02
Taipei	Stock Market Index	6,514.46	6,464.76	+0.77
Manila	PSE	2,372.35	2,340.58	+1.36
Jakarta	Composite Index	428.64	428.32	+0.07
Wellington	NZSE-10	1,990.83	1,993.17	-0.12
Bombay	Sensitive Index	3,288.32	3,292.94	-0.14

Source: Reuters. International Herald Tribune

Very briefly:

- Leon Davis, the chief executive of CRA Ltd., one of Australia's largest mining companies, said the company's new strategy of selling off assets and divesting itself of noncore businesses would result in lower revenue but higher profit.
- China said it would need \$1.7 billion in foreign investment for its postal and telecommunications sector in 1995.
- South Korea said that foreign investment in the country's stock market continued to show a net outflow in March due to uncertainty over market direction and the increasing reluctance of Western investors to enter developing Asian markets.
- Sun Hung Kai Properties Ltd., the Hong Kong developer, said it would buy a 5 percent stake in a 78-story commercial building, Central Plaza, for 712.3 million Hong Kong dollars (\$92.1 million) from Ryoden Development Ltd., another developer.
- Apple Computer Inc. said it would set up a unit in China to develop software and hardware for its Macintosh products.
- East Japan Railway Co. predicted that its parent-level pretax profit for the financial year beginning April 1 would be 101 billion yen (\$1.1 billion); last year it forecast pretax profit of 101.5 billion yen for the financial year ending March 31.
- Sumitomo Metal Industries Ltd. said it planned to reduce its administrative staff to 3,400 by March 1997, from 4,400 currently.
- Bangkok Bank Ltd. said it would issue subordinated debentures worth 15 billion baht (\$607.2 million) to raise capital.
- Ralph Willis, the finance minister of Australia, said that if the country's economy was to grow sustainably, it must slow from its current annual growth rate of between 5 percent and 6 percent.
- China said it would set up a network of commercial banks in the country's cities that would replace urban credit cooperatives.
- Japan's 10-year public-investment program of 630 trillion yen may not be enough to help boost the country's economy, said a private research institute. (Bloomberg, Knight-Ridder, AFP)

Machinery Exports Help Australia Dent Trade Gap

Bloomberg Business News

SYDNEY — Australia's bond market and dollar rose Thursday after the government reported a better-than-expected current-account deficit for February. Exports rose to a record.

The trade deficit narrowed 5 percent to 2.16 billion Australian dollars (\$1.57 billion), compared with its January level, but remained above the 2-billion-dollar level for the seventh time in eight months. Analysts had forecast a deficit of about 2.3 billion dollars.

"The market got a better result than it

expected," said Rob Hollonds, director of treasury services at Dresdner Australia. "It clears the way in the short term but the concern is going to linger."

In Sydney, the Australian dollar hit 72.50 U.S. cents and was headed toward another key level of 72.60 cents. On the credit market, 90-day bank-bill futures rallied, as did 3-year and 10-year bonds.

The government admitted that the deficit was likely to surge to 2.6 billion dollars for the year ending June 30.

The better result reflected a larger-than-expected 4 percent rise in exports,

particularly in machinery and other nonnatural products. There was also improvement in the net-income deficit, or the amount Australia pays to service its debt. It fell 4 percent from a four-year high to 1.53 billion dollars.

Bernie Fraser, governor of Australia's central bank, refused to rule out further rises in interest rates, however, saying that would depend on how far the next federal budget moved toward surplus.

Mr. Fraser also said that annual growth of about 4 percent seemed a

reasonable level for Australia to maintain without stirring inflation.

Thailand's Trade Deficit Narrows

Thailand's trade deficit fell 38 percent in February, to 17.5 billion baht (\$708 million), the Bank of Thailand said Thursday, Bloomberg Business News reported from Bangkok.

The decline from January was mainly due to a slowing of imports of capital goods, as companies postponed purchases due to volatility in foreign currencies, said an analyst for Sitca Investment & Securities PLC.

START: Dutch Firm Finds Jobs

Continued from Page 13

among 200 companies we work with," said Hugo 't Hart, an employee in a Start office in Amsterdam's poor southeastern district. "Most companies use the temporary time as a trial period before hiring someone permanently."

Arjan Broek, who collected unemployment sporadically for more than a year before Start found him a job at an air-freight company at Amsterdam's Schiphol airport, accepted the job under a temporary contract. But he hopes his long job search is already over.

"I'm taking someone else's spot, so it's likely it'll be a permanent job," he said.

Neither the company where the worker toils nor Start, the middleman, is under any obligation to maintain its relationship with the worker. Nevertheless, about 75 percent of the temporary workers placed by the Schiphol office have eventually been offered permanent contracts.

In many cases, Start offices occupy a corner of a local state unemployment office. The government tries to find people permanent jobs, but when it cannot, it often refers them to Start.

Employers, in turn, sometimes post jobs with both, but can usually count on Start to fill a position more quickly as a result of its personal contact with both prospective employers and employees.

"Our main goal is to offer employers a service made to measure," said Renate Rouwen, a Start personnel adviser at Schiphol airport, where the local Start branch is actually a joint venture with the state unemployment office. "We can solve any problem they have."

Start's most unconventional initiatives, such as lending people flats to drive to the flower fields in Aalsmeer, are usually related to the long-term unem-

ployed or another of its "problem groups." And its services go beyond simple referrals.

When some of the workers it hired to work in Aalsmeer developed back problems because unemployment-related inactivity had robbed them of their muscle tone, for example, Start sent them to a gym to get back in shape.

Mr. Attema said: "You have to be creative. We're constantly on the lookout for situations in which work is available but the government cannot help people and we can. That's the common thread running through all these projects."

Next: Putting people back to work in Glasgow.

China Sells 44% of Bonds 25 Days Into Sale, Paper Says

Bloomberg Business News

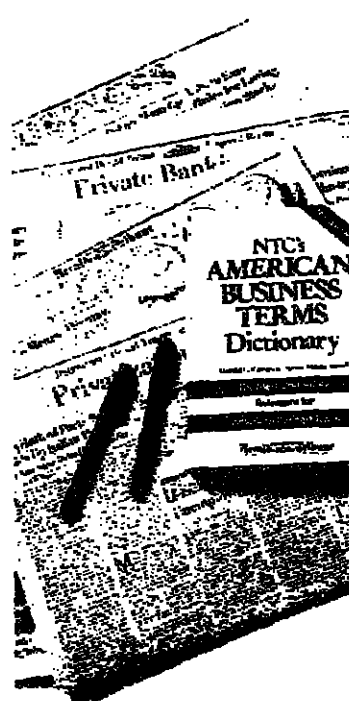
BEIJING — The Chinese government sold close to half of a 150 billion-yuan (\$17.84 billion) treasury bond issue just 25 days into the five-month sale period, the official China Daily reported on Thursday.

By Saturday, Chinese residents had bought 65.7 billion yuan of the bonds, the newspaper said, or 44 percent of the issue. Bond sales are running 80 percent above the rate recorded last year, it added. The 1994 issue was 103 billion yuan, and in 1993, it was 30 billion.

Two thirds of the 1994 bonds will not be tradeable. Those bonds have a 14 percent coupon plus a subsidy rate that pegs them to inflation. A limited number of tradeable bonds will be sold to companies and institutional investors, with a coupon of 14.5 percent.

Both types of bond have a three-year maturity. Analysts said the large bond issue this year would help bring down inflation by curbing consumer spending and drawing money from stock markets.

The Most Up-to-Date Reference for American Business Terms



The American Business Terms Dictionary includes over 4,000 terms from commerce, banking, investment and finance — defined clearly and concisely. This reference book is edited especially for people living and working in an international environment.

The clear and logical organization, as well as careful attention to parts of speech, grammatical number and idiomatic usage, make this volume the ideal choice for business professionals, students or anyone who needs knowledge of the basic terminology of business and commerce.

The Dictionary incorporates many useful features:

- Each entry has at least one example or explanation in addition to a clear and concise definition.
- Current slang and colloquial words and phrases are included, as well as buzz words and jargon.
- Abundant cross-referencing connects synonymous terms and concepts.
- Numerous abbreviations and acronyms are defined and explained, along with common Latin terms and expressions.

The American Business Terms Dictionary is published by National Textbook Company (Chicago) and the International Herald Tribune Hardcover, 370 pages. Fax or mail the order coupon today.

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Dairy Farm

Highlights 1994

A Demanding Year

- Trading profit unchanged
- Earnings per ordinary share + 11%
- Dividends per ordinary share + 6%
- Capital expenditure over US\$200 million
- New supermarket joint ventures in Japan and Malaysia
- 2,500 retail outlets worldwide

"Dairy Farm's results are being affected by the challenges of a highly competitive industry and by the cost of expanding into new markets. Trading profit for 1995 is, therefore, likely to be lower than in the previous year. Nevertheless, the investments we are making should enhance returns in future years."

Simon Keswick, Chairman
29th March 1995

1994 RESULTS

	Year ended 31st December	
	1994	1993
	US\$m	US\$m
Turnover	5,585.3	4,979.6
Trading profit	269.6	270.8
Exceptional item	41.8	—
Profit before interest and taxation	311.4	270.8
Profit before taxation	294.0	252.3
Profit after taxation and minority interests	227.4	137.5
Profit after preference dividends	213.8	168.8
Shareholders' funds	1,160.7	1,001.1
	USc	USc
Earnings per ordinary share	12.52	11.28
Dividends per ordinary share	6.00	5.65

Dairy Farm International Holdings Limited
Incorporated in Bermuda with limited liability



A member of the Jardine Matheson Group

For investment information

read
THE MONEY
REPORT
every
Saturday
in the
IHT

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年次	1911	1912	1913	1914	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035	2036	2037	2038	2039	2040	2041	2042	2043	2044	2045	2046	2047	2048	2049	2050	2051	2052	2053	2054	2055	2056	2057	2058	2059	2060	2061	2062	2063	2064	2065	2066	2067	2068	2069	2070	2071	2072	2073	2074	2075	2076	2077	2078	2079	2080	2081	2082	2083	2084	2085	2086	2087	2088	2089	2090	2091	2092	2093	2094	2095	2096	2097	2098	2099	2100
人口	1,200,000	1,300,000	1,400,000	1,500,000	1,600,000	1,700,000	1,800,000	1,900,000	2,000,000	2,100,000	2,200,000	2,300,000	2,400,000	2,500,000	2,600,000	2,700,000	2,800,000	2,900,000	3,000,000	3,100,000	3,200,000	3,300,000	3,400,000	3,500,000	3,600,000	3,700,000	3,800,000	3,900,000	4,000,000	4,100,000	4,200,000	4,300,000	4,400,000	4,500,000	4,600,000	4,700,000	4,800,000	4,900,000	5,000,000	5,100,000	5,200,000	5,300,000	5,400,000	5,500,000	5,600,000	5,700,000	5,800,000	5,900,000	6,000,000	6,100,000	6,200,000	6,300,000	6,400,000	6,500,000	6,600,000	6,700,000	6,800,000	6,900,000	7,000,000	7,100,000	7,200,000	7,300,000	7,400,000	7,500,000	7,600,000	7,700,000	7,800,000	7,900,000	8,000,000	8,100,000	8,200,000	8,300,000	8,400,000	8,500,000	8,600,000	8,700,000	8,800,000	8,900,000	9,000,000	9,100,000	9,200,000	9,300,000	9,400,000	9,500,000	9,600,000	9,700,000	9,800,000	9,900,000	10,000,000	10,100,000	10,200,000	10,300,000	10,400,000	10,500,000	10,600,000	10,700,000	10,800,000	10,900,000	11,000,000	11,100,000	11,200,000	11,300,000	11,400,000	11,500,000	11,600,000	11,700,000	11,800,000	11,900,000	12,000,000	12,100,000	12,200,000	12,300,000	12,400,000	12,500,000	12,600,000	12,700,000	12,800,000	12,900,000	13,000,000	13,100,000	13,200,000	13,300,000	13,400,000	13,500,000	13,600,000	13,700,000	13,800,000	13,900,000	14,000,000	14,100,000	14,200,000	14,300,000	14,400,000	14,500,000	14,600,000	14,700,000	14,800,000	14,900,000	15,000,000	15,100,000	1																																																	

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 四、教育部
 五、社會教育司
 六、圖書館
 七、博物館
 八、科學館
 九、體育場
 十、音樂廳
 十一、戲劇院
 十二、電影院
 十三、遊藝場
 十四、兒童樂園
 十五、青年會
 十六、婦女會
 十七、農會
 十八、漁會
 十九、商會
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 二百四十七、學術團體
 二百四十八、文化團體
 二百四十九、體育團體
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March 30, 1955

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SPORTS

Mighty Mary Loses Another Race, but Gains a Hearing

By Angus Phillips
Washington Post Service

SAN DIEGO — The Mighty Mary has been driven another step nearer America's Cup elimination on the water, but has turned up the heat on a legal battle ashore that may put it and its crew of 15 women and one man in the defender finals next month.

Mighty Mary was beaten wire-to-wire at sea Wednesday for the second straight day, this time by fleet-leader Young America, and by 1 minute, 11 seconds. That left the boat of the America's Cup syndicate one point behind Dennis Conner's Stars & Stripes in the fight for the remaining berth in the finals, with one race to go.

On the challenger course, Team New Zealand and Tag Heuer Challenge won their races, with Black Magic I, in its last match of the semifinals, beating one Australia by 2:39. Tag Heuer Challenge, outslipping the winless Nippon by 2:26 to close to a point of the Australian boat.

If Conner wins any of his three remaining races, including the one Friday against Mighty Mary, it would be gone from the competition and the year-long quest to put a female crew in the high-profile final rounds of yachting's premier event would be over.

But while the chances of Conner losing three straight seemed remote, his prospects on land in a simmering dispute took a turn for the worse with

the announcement that international jury would rule on the legality of controversial repairs he made to stay in the regatta. The jury heard evidence for 4½ hours Wednesday night, then decided to reconvene after Thursday's race.

If the jury rules against Conner, as seems possible, Stars & Stripes could be tossed from the field and the women would automatically advance.

Stars & Stripes came close to sinking when its keel broke and nearly fell off in Sunday's race against Young America. The keel was hastily replaced with an old one and the boat was back on the water Tuesday in time to beat the women. But the legality of the keel change was challenged by America's

which requested a hearing before an international jury.

The issue is simple: Did Conner have the right to replace the broken keel? Race rules permit such a change during a racing series, but only if the replacement is "similar" to the broken keel and if the team has obtained the written approval of official measurers.

Vincent Moeyersons, the president of the America's Cup syndicate, produced documents Wednesday showing Conner did not have advance written permission from the chief measurer, Ken McAlpine, who notified race officials instead that his team did "not concur" that the new keel was similar to the one it replaced. In fact, it was not even

attached in the same place on the hull. Moeyersons maintains that instead of getting advance clearance from McAlpine, Conner, a former commodore of the San Diego Yacht Club, got it from the America's Cup Defense Committee, whose members include three other former SDYC commodores and the father-in-law of one of Conner's crewmen.

To America's officials, that was favoritism.

The Defense Committee first refused to send the protest on to an international jury, but late Wednesday afternoon the committee's chairman, Wylie Cable, relented and agreed to let the jury hear the case.

UCLA's Czech Star Gets Seattle Spring Final Four Is Far From Prague

By Malcolm Moran
New York Times Service

LOS ANGELES — George Zidek's UCLA teammates were listening to more questions about competing for a national basketball championship, questions that had to do with timing and pressure and the burdens of history.

He has become an important part of their effort, a 7-foot, 213-pound, 250-pound (133-kilogram), self-made senior center and a first-team academic all-American. Zidek's importance will be magnified Saturday, when he meets Oklahoma State's Bryant Reeves, a 7-foot, 292-pound center, in the type of power matchup that has nearly vanished from the college game.

But Zidek's spot in history extends beyond the two games the Bruins hope to play in Seattle this weekend. Zidek's place has as much to do with where he has been than where he will be going. His basketball career and his 3.77 average in economics could easily have been lost on Nov. 17, 1989, on the streets of Prague.

He was one of thousands of young Czechs attending a memorial service that paid tribute to a student who had been killed 50 years before, during the Nazi occupation. The rally, not far from Wenceslas Square, was considered the largest public protest in the nation since the summer of 1969, the year after a Soviet-led invasion.

Zidek, the son of Jim Zidek, a coach and former player, went to the service with school friends. He remembered the flowers and candles that marchers held and the nonviolent spirit they brought to the occasion. But when the demonstrators moved toward Wenceslas Square and the riot policemen resisted, the atmosphere in the

streets and the country changed forever.

"People demonstrated for freedom," Zidek said. "We commemorated how one young man died for academic freedom, so it was really close to freedom in general."

He remembered how the square became a symbol for each side's sense of victory or defeat. He recalled the force policemen used to stop the demonstrators from advancing, and the beatings some friends endured. Zidek's size, his basketball skills and his family's reputation provided a path to a better life. But as he stood face to face with an officer, his safety and his future were threatened.

"If I got arrested at that time, it would have meant the end of my career," he said. "I would have been caught in an anti-Communist demonstration. That would pretty much be it."

"I begged one of the cops to let me out," Zidek said. "He just did. I don't know why. Maybe he knew my Dad or something, but I don't think so. I would have been such an obvious target. I can guarantee you I would have gotten beat up."

In a game that places so much importance on timing, Zidek's was perfect. The successful overthrow of the Communist regime meant that Zidek, who was then 16, would not have to confront the reality of leaving his family and country forever to pursue the game somewhere else. He returns home for six weeks each summer. His father has just purchased a satellite dish to watch his son this weekend.

Zidek was discovered by UCLA coaches at an all-star game in Prague, where the coaches went to see Julius Michalik, who would wind up at Iowa State. The Bruins wound up with two players, Richard Petruska and Zidek.

He has worked his way through the awkwardness that slowed his progress, the accent that led teammates to call him the Terminator, and 30 unnecessary pounds.

His effort has extended to the end of his senior year. On Wednesday afternoon, long after nearly all of Zidek's teammates were off the practice floor, he continued to work near a corner basket, trading post moves with a freshman center.

Zidek's hook shots, uncoiled smoothly with his right and left hands in the rhythm of an out-dated instructional film, passed over the reach of the other player on the way the Bruins are counting on those shots to elude the grasp of Reeves.

"He's going to score," said Jim Harrick, UCLA's coach. "Reeves has to go get him. George is a lot better away from the basket than Reeves is. He's not going to block his shot. It's whether George makes them or not."

Baseball Talks Are Set Before Court Hearing

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Major league baseball's strike talks were to be resumed Thursday night, just hours before a federal judge is to hold a hearing on whether to issue an injunction that would end the walkout.

"I'll be coming in," the acting commissioner, Bud Selig, said from Milwaukee late Wednesday night. "It's tentative; we have to firm it up in the morning. But I'm sure I'll be coming."

"We'll find out how serious the owners are when we make our counterproposal," Bobby Bonilla of the New York Mets said after the union's executive board concluded its two-day meeting.

U.S. District Court Judge Sonia Sotomayor has scheduled a hearing for Friday morning — just two days before the scheduled season opener — on the petition by the National Labor Relations Board for a preliminary injunction against the owners. The NLRB has accused them of illegally changing the terms of the expired collective bargaining agreement before an impasse in bargaining.

The union's executive board

voted unanimously Wednesday to end the 7½-month strike if Sotomayor issues an injunction restoring salary arbitration and free-agent bidding.

"If the prior terms and conditions of employment are restored effectively by the injunction, the players will end the strike and return to work," said the head of the union, Donald Fehr.

The owners were to hold a conference call Thursday to approve the use of replacement players. If the striking players do end the walkout, owners could lock them out. But that possibility is decreasing.

A lawyer for the American League, Bill Schweitzer, met in Baltimore with the Orioles' owner, Peter Angelos, who again refused to field a replacement team. The league is threatening to make the team forfeit any missed replacement games.

"There has been mention of the potential penalties that can be assessed," Angelos said. "My position is that everything the Orioles have done is in the best interests of baseball, in the best interest of Cal Ripken's streak."



A HAND FROM THE AUDIENCE — Ivan Newbill ended up head down in the seats after diving for a ball during the Pistons' 107-97 NBA loss to the visiting Knicks. In San Antonio, the Spurs ran their winning streak to nine straight by routing the Lakers, 107-84.

Virginia Tech Wins in NIT

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Shawn Smith made two free throws with less than a second left in overtime to give Virginia Tech a 65-64 victory over Marquette for the NIT championship.

Smith, who finished with 24 points, was fouled by Faisal Abraham as he went up for a shot under the basket with seven-tenths of a second to go in Wednesday night's game.

The junior forward made his first free throw to tie the score, then sank his second after Marquette called a timeout to make him think about it.

"I figured if I missed them I'd take the blame and if I made them, I'd be a hero," said Smith, voted the tournament MVP.

Marquette then inbounded the ball to Anthony Pieper just across midcourt, but he couldn't get a shot off before the buzzer sounded.

Smith, a 67 percent free throw shooter during the season, made 10 of 12 in the final. It was the second NIT title for Virginia Tech (25-10), which also won it in overtime against Notre Dame in 1973. Marquette, which won the NIT in 1970, finished at 21-12.

SCOREBOARD

NBA Standings

EASTERN CONFERENCE			
Team	W	L	Pct
Orlando	32	18	.640
New York	31	19	.620
Atlanta	29	21	.580
Boston	27	23	.540
New Jersey	26	24	.520
Philadelphia	25	25	.500
Washington	24	26	.480
Charlotte	23	27	.460
Indiana	22	28	.440
Chicago	21	29	.420
Albany	20	30	.400
Milwaukee	19	31	.380
Detroit	18	32	.360

WESTERN CONFERENCE			
Team	W	L	Pct
San Antonio	31	19	.620
Utah	30	20	.600
Houston	29	21	.580
Denver	28	22	.560
Phoenix	27	23	.540
Seattle	26	24	.520
L.A. Lakers	25	25	.500
Portland	24	26	.480
Golden State	23	27	.460
Sacramento	22	28	.440
Los Angeles	21	29	.420
Memphis	20	30	.400
San Diego	19	31	.380
Minnesota	18	32	.360

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP			
Team	W	L	Pct
Spain	10	2	.667
Czech Republic	9	3	.750
France	8	4	.667
Italy	7	5	.583
Germany	6	6	.500
Yugoslavia	5	7	.417
Slovenia	4	8	.333
Lithuania	3	9	.250
Latvia	2	10	.167
Estonia	1	11	.083

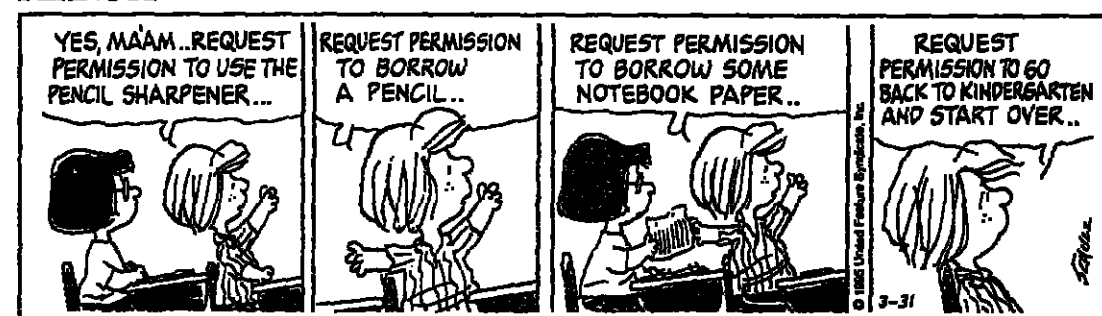
INTERNATIONAL FRIENDLIES			
Team	W	L	Pct
USA	10	0	1.000
Canada	9	1	.900
China	8	2	.800
Australia	7	3	.700
South Korea	6	4	.600
Japan	5	5	.500
Philippines	4	6	.400
Iran	3	7	.300
South Africa	2	8	.200
Spain	1	9	.100

NHL Standings			
Team	W	L	Pct
Pittsburgh	30	10	.750
Philadelphia	29	11	.725
Washington	28	12	.700
New York	27	13	.675
Florida	26	14	.650
St. Louis	25	15	.625
Albany	24	16	.600
Buffalo	23	17	.575
Montreal	22	18	.550
Ottawa	21	19	.525

DENNIS THE MENACE



PEANUTS



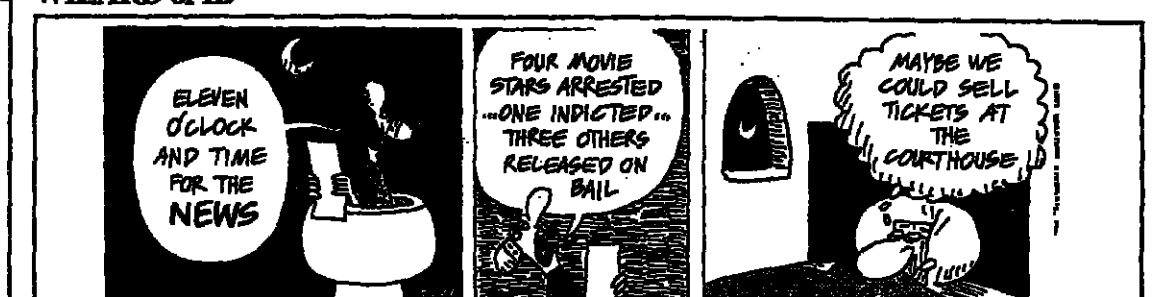
CALVIN AND HOBBES



GARFIELD



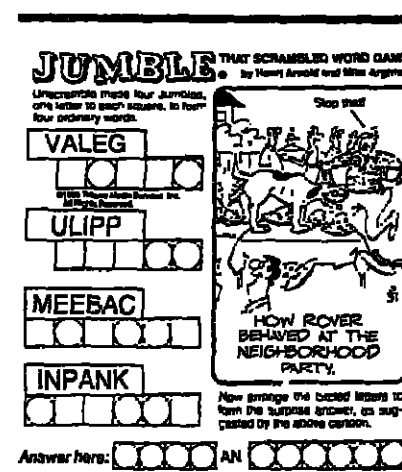
WIZARD OF ID



BEETLE BAILEY



THE FAR SIDE



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Answers: TUESDAY, MARCH 31, 1995

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Complicated Fuel 'Fingerprint' Is a Clue to Formula One Racing's Dispute

By Brad Spurgeon
Special to the Herald Tribune

PARIS — If Formula One racing has become increasingly predictable — Michael Schumacher wins, or Michael Schumacher is disqualified — what remains arcane are the rules of the International Automobile Federation.

There is the rule about a driver's passing another during the warm-up lap, or the one about the plank of wood on the bottom of the car being shaved down to an illegal thickness. And the one about racing fuel that doesn't match its "fingerprint."

For the winner and runner-up in the season-opening Brazil Grand Prix, this is the rule that got them disqualified. And it involved Schumacher, who drives for the Benetton-Renault team, plus David Coulthard, who drives for the Williams-Renault team.

But how does gasoline get a "fingerprint," what do the fuel regulations mean, and why are they there?

"We've got a rule," said Max Mosley, the president of automobile federation, "that they use pump petrol. The problem is, what is pump petrol? Because it has 200 to 300 components. And they vary from time to time."

Mosley said it took a week or two to analyze a fuel sample to determine its chemical makeup. This time lag, in the past, left open the possibility of overturning the results of a race several weeks after it had been run.

"It was at the suggestion of the then chairman of Elf, Alain Guillon, that we brought in a new idea," Mosley said, referring to the French company that supplies fuel for many of the Grand Prix teams.

The fuel companies, Mosley said, were to be told "to submit an example of the fuel they intend to use before the season begins. Then do all the analyses, satisfy ourselves that it's completely legal. We then take from it a characteristic print, using gas chromatography."

Chromatography is a method used by chemists to separate often-complex mixtures. Gas-liquid chromatography vaporizes solid and liquid samples of the fuels and introduces them to sensitive detectors by which minute amounts of material can be analyzed. The automobile federation calls the result a "fingerprint" of the fuel's molecular structure.

Mosley, 54, a former Formula One driver and a lawyer, said: "When the fuel is in the car, run it through the gas chromatograph, and if the two prints are the same, we know the fuel in the car is the same as the fuel originally submitted. We therefore know it is legal. And we can do that, when it is working smoothly, within 45 minutes."

If the fingerprint does not match, however, then the team has already broken a rule. This is the situation in which the Benetton and Williams teams, both of which have filed appeals, first found themselves, and for which they were fined \$30,000.

The two drivers were disqualified when the same mismatched fingerprints showed up in tests after the race in Brazil.

And if, during further tests now being carried out, the fuel samples still do not match, that, too, will be a violation of the automobile federation's rules.

"All approved fuels are legal," Mosley said. "Not all unapproved fuels are illegal. But it is nevertheless an offense to run an unapproved fuel."

And if the fuel is legal, even though the fingerprints do not match?

"It would be open to the court of appeal to say, should they so decide, that the penalty was excessive," said Mosley, referring to the hearing to be held in Paris on April 13. "They can do anything. They have complete liberty. But in the usual traditions of motor racing, the innocent mistake that takes you

outside the regulations always results in you being excluded."

According to the regulations, new fuels may be submitted throughout the season for testing, approval and fingerprinting — or rejected. But since it takes a couple of weeks to do the master fingerprint, samples must be submitted well in advance of a race.

Elf provides fuel for seven Formula One teams and, Mosley said, probably would have different fuels for teams with eight-cylinder engines than for those with 10-cylinder engines. And they might have different fuels for qualifying and practice as well.

"As it turned out, they only had the one fuel there," Mosley said of the Benetton and Williams teams. "But there is no danger of a gross injustice, because if by any chance the equipment was faulty or something like that has happened, you could reinstate them."

In the case of the Elf fuel, he said, "The complaint, and I've only heard it in conversation so far, but I understand that the density is different. There was a substance in the fuel taken from the car that was not present in the sample."

Elf has said that a fuel may change up to 30 percent of its characteristics after being heated in the tank of the car. But Mosley said the tests took this into account, and that it did not provide a reason for a new substance being introduced.

Benetton has refused to comment on the matter, but Williams, in a statement, raised three possibilities: Elf sent an incorrect batch of fuel to Brazil; the automobile federation's

testing equipment malfunctioned, or the equipment was incorrectly operated.

Elf, which has provided fuel to Formula One teams for 28 years without ever before being sanctioned, maintains that it has strictly abided by the rules. It also complains that none of the test results were given to inspect and that it could not have its own experts take part in the testing, even though it had proposed to the federation at the end of 1994 that an independent group of experts analyze the fuel.

"What do they mean by a fingerprint?" asked Tom Saunders, the spokesman for Elf. "If you do a fingerprint on a human it will be the same

match time after time. But when you refine crude oil, much will depend on where the oil comes from," he said, whether from Saudi Arabia, the North Sea or elsewhere.

"It's impossible to find two samples that are exactly the same," he said. "There are between 280 and 330 different molecules in a sample of fuel. No test will reveal two samples of fuel to be the same."

Speaking of the Ferrari and McLaren samples that Mosley said had matched, Saunders said, "I'd like to know what they mean by matched. We would like to be able to see the tests."

Mosley, asked about the possibility that the testing equipment was faulty, since this was its first use at a Grand Prix, said

of the technicians. "When they found that the Williams and the Benetton didn't check out, nobody believed it. So they had to check and check and re-check. And they were worried about all the points that are now being raised by Elf."

It was not until they had made several tests, he said, that they had enough confidence in the results to report them to federation officials.

Everyone concerned — the automobile federation, Elf, the teams and drivers — seem to have come to the same basic conclusion: No one was cheating or trying to gain an advantage.

So why the disqualification? "The whole system would collapse if there isn't a sanction," Mosley said.

Tyson Will Return To Ring, and With King His Promoter

The Associated Press

CLEVELAND — Mike Tyson, saying he wanted to "associate myself with the biggest and the best," announced Thursday that he will return to boxing and that Don King will remain his promoter.

In his first public comments since his release from prison Saturday, Tyson ended speculation that a rift had developed between himself and King. But he did not take any questions after reading a brief statement at Grand Arena.

"Don is the greatest promoter in the world, as we know," Tyson said.

The former undisputed heavyweight champion said that longtime friends John Horne and Rory Holloway will manage him. He also said that his fights will be carried on the Showtime cable network and that he has an agreement to fight at the MGM Grand in Las Vegas.

"I want to associate myself with the biggest and the best," Tyson said, "and I look forward to working with them and seeing you soon."

At the start of his statement, Tyson spoke briefly about how he spent his three years in prison after being convicted of rape.

"For the past three years I've had a chance to reflect on my life and to develop my mind," he said, "and I will continue my journey to making myself a better person so I can help others."

Wearing a straw hat and black suit, Tyson arrived at the arena in a black limousine at 11:20 A.M., but waited nearly an hour before reading a 76-second statement.

He ended his statement by saying, "May Allah bless you all. Thank you." Among those present at the arena were the promoters Harold Rossfields Smith, Bilal Muhammad and Akbar Muhammad.

There have been many reports since Tyson's release that he would dump King as his promoter. King reportedly was at his home in Florida on Thursday because his wife, Henrietta, was ill.

Tyson, 28, did not say when he hopes to return to the ring for what could be a series of some of the richest fights in history.

Before the statement, Smith, who served time in prison for embezzling \$24 million from the Wells Fargo bank, said, "Tyson won't be free until his probation is over because of all the restrictions."

Tyson's probation lasts four years. It was only the second time in two days that Tyson had left his estate in Southington, Ohio. On Wednesday, he made the 30-minute trip to Youngstown to meet with his probation officer, Dennis Almasi.

There's Davis Cup Drama in Sicily, but Mostly Off Court

By Ian Thomsen
International Herald Tribune



Michael Leckel/Reuters

WHAT'S UP? — Thomas Muster had a unique way of attacking the ball during practice for Austria's first match Friday against Sweden, in which he plays Magnus Larsson. Alexander Antonitsch meets Stefan Edberg in the second singles, while in Saturday's doubles Muster and Antonitsch play Jonas Bjorkman and Jan Apell. Germany named Boris Becker to face Paul Haarhuis in the first match against the Netherlands, with Michael Stich taking on Richard Krajicek, and Becker and Stich playing doubles against Haarhuis and Jacco Eltingh. In Moscow, Yevgeny Kafelnikov opens against South Africa's Marcos Ondruska. Alexander Volkov plays Wayne Ferreira, with Kafelnikov and Andrei Olkhovsky playing in doubles against Ferreira and David Adams.

Palermo, Sicily — Newman and Redford made just the two movies together. In other words, the Davis Cup may never again pair No. 1 Pete Sampras and No. 2 Andre Agassi, especially at their box-office height, and so why, the Italian public wants to know, are they playing all the way down here?

Three times as many people could have seen them play in Milan.

Yes, comes the wise Sicilian retort (in a voice one does not mock), the Milan court is very beautiful, and if most people would prefer to hold the Davis Cup quarterfinal matches there then so too would the American players. Sampras and Agassi would much rather play on the beautiful, indoor surface in Milan than that much faster than the dusty, slow clay of the forgotten stadium here in Palermo.

How can you argue with that?

For the first time since John McEnroe and Jimmy Connors teamed for the United States in 1984, the Davis Cup has carried the world's top two players on one team — and in the most unlikely setting. The setting amounts to Italy's best chance for an upset that is practically unimaginable. The matches begin Friday with the U.S. team sending Agassi out against No. 19 Andrea Gaudenzi, the leading Italian. They will be followed by Sampras vs. Rocco Furlan, who is a dimmer No. 67 in the world.

It might seem like an exhibition, a Hope-and-Crosby road show, until the players find themselves inside this 5,100-seat stadium, dwarfed by the surrounding lush trees, the taller apartment buildings overlooking one side of the court and the rocky Sicilian walls blocking off the other. It will be too noisy, too threatening for an exhibition. The Americans will be escorted by bodyguards — as many as 40 of them reportedly have been protecting the visiting stars since their arrival on the Mafia's founding island Monday night.

Surprisingly cold weather has lurked behind them, blowing down a tree at a peripheral

court Tuesday. Everything is in place to make the Americans feel foreign and vulnerable. Everything but the ball on the racket.

The Italians suffered a different kind of tactical defeat in the draw Thursday when Sampras avoided Gaudenzi on the opening day. While Agassi is comfortable on clay, Sampras is not. Sampras plans to stay in Europe until the French Open in May, in order to better get the feel of clay, but Friday will bring his first match on it since Jim Courier beat him in last year's French Open.

Gaudenzi would have had a much better chance of upsetting Sampras first thing, but now he won't see him until the singles resume on Sunday — and by then the quarterfinal may have been decided. The American doubles team of Richey Reneberg and Jared Palmer, winners of the Australian Open in January, meet Stefano Pescosolido and Cristian Brandi in the third match Saturday.

More intriguing might be the sight of Agassi and Sampras supporting each other. It is the other side of their rivalry, predicted by Agassi's comeback in the last year. While winning the last two Grand Slam events, and most recently beating the world No. 1 at the Key Biscayne final on Sunday, Agassi has trimmed Sampras's once-mighty lead in the ATP Tour rankings down to 227 ATP

Tour computer points. That's like making a profit of 227 Italian lire for selling a pizza. It comes out to 13 cents.

Yet Sampras has openly courted Agassi's growth. Each has been hungry for a rival. In a sense, they're both on the same team with Nike, their shoe sponsor. It's a beautiful, professional friendship.

"Pete is not the enemy, you know," Agassi said. "I have a great amount of respect for him on a lot of levels. We've both played our whole lives for moments like this. We have one thing on our mind and that is to win the Davis Cup. We're going to do this together."

Neither player had wanted to play Davis Cup this year. When they decided to come, they seemed to decide together.

"It boils down to us not wanting to lose to Italy with our fourth or fifth guy," Agassi said. "If we are going to lose they are going to have to beat our best."

Agassi is playing his first Davis Cup match since 1993, when he dropped out in the middle of a qualifying-round tie, albeit after it had been decided. But he played on winning teams in 1990 and 1992, and his record is 20-4 in Davis Cup singles. The United States has won six of its last eight ties with Italy, but none have come since 1979, when the Italians were drubbed by 5-0.

SIDELINES

Hungary Added to Grand Prix Slate

PARIS (Reuters) — The Hungarian Grand Prix has been added to this season's Formula One schedule as a 17th race, FIA said after its world council met Thursday.

The Hungarian Grand Prix had been listed as a reserve event on the original calendar of 16 races. But FIA said the Italian Grand Prix, scheduled for Sept. 10, would only "remain on the calendar provided that the guarantees concerning the necessary safety work requested by the FIA are given before the next world council on June 28."

Workmen modifying the Imola track for the San Marino Grand Prix on April 30 found a World War II bomb Tuesday. Police said the area was evacuated and the 200-kilogram bomb was removed without further incident.

FINA Finds No Proof Against China

BANGKOK (AP) — FINA said Thursday that it had found no proof of a systematic use of banned drugs by Chinese athletes.

Mustapha Larfaoui, the federation's president, said at the end of a three-day meeting on the issue that an extraordinary congress had been called for Nov. 28 to tighten drug rules and stiffen penalties against violators, including coaches and federations.

For the Record

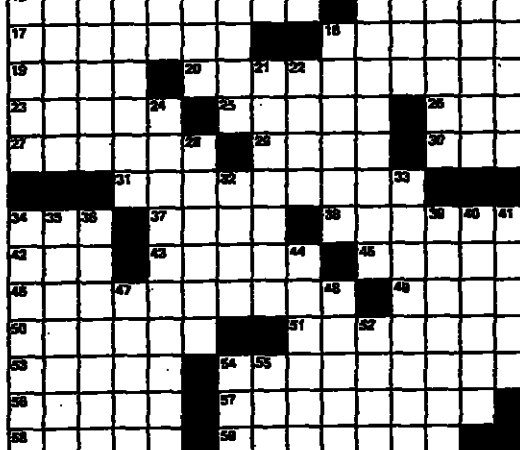
Rudi Voller, the former German international striker, is suing Olympic Marseille for 5.9 million francs (\$1.2 million) in overdue taxes the club should have paid and that French authorities are demanding from him, the SID news agency reported. (Reuters)

CROSSWORD

ACROSS
1 Bad accident
8 Nettles
13 Scattering of a population
14 Kind of lines

15 Men-made
16 Turkeys
17 Ben-Gay, e.g.
18 Place to put bags
19 Activist
20 Kind of party
21 Smoking wet
22 Trumpet's sound
23 Lip
24 Lie in a sheltered spot
25 Galway Bay's islands
26 "Boat" (1981 film)
27 Extended rule?
28 Round: Abbr.
29 Jog
30 Rummage
31 Sugar suffix
32 Charged, in a way
33 With on ice
34 Events at Newport
35 Participating in
36 Hissful
37 Cause turmoil in
38 Lugged
39 Dickens novel
40 Expanse
41 Tasty mollusks
42 De-ices, in a way
43 Tablet

DOWN
1 Glee club members
2 Bond's end
3 Face of Lower and Newcomer
4 Exhausted
5 Swiss canton
6 ———— 10
7 ———— conference
8 Résumé list
9 Acquired relative
10 Ferocious cat
11 Department stores
12 ———— analyst
13 Vacuum tube feature
14 Sun helmets
15 Red Sea borderer
16 Sun helmets
17 Cash alternative
18 Hole
19 Soothing words
20 Box score figure
21 "Bibbidi-bobbidi-boo" (Galleop's novel)
22 With on ice
23 Prairie wolves
24 First name in dance
25 Conservatory offering
26 On again
27 Breakfast fare
28 Prelims
29 Lamorik fruit
30 "The Lodger" cartoonist Bill
31 Edge
32 Pull up
33 "Star Wars" rogue
34 ———— system (blood typing)



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Solution to Puzzle of March 30

VIAS ART PASCAL
TICH VIE UNHOLY
VOGATION STALIER
ONESTONES KIRI
RICH GENUV PLAT
RICH REEF ASST
DANAS DROOL
ARRESTA TOTEBAG
NARCS TOGAE
BRED OTTO SRS
LENA MOEL BGO
ADAM GRENTHUMB
EVERENA VIGARIAL
EVERENA ENA ENCE
SELDOM SEA DEF

President Flushes Out Missing Maradona

BUENOS AIRES — Diego Maradona, who mysteriously disappeared from public sight Sunday, turned up at a Buenos Aires hotel Thursday with President Carlos Saul Menem of Argentina.

Maradona's manager, Marcos Franchi, entered the hotel and left guff-faced an hour later, implicitly confirming the presence of

Maradona, Argentina's former World Cup captain, despite denials by hotel staff.

President Menem had promised earlier on Thursday to try to find out where he was and to help if he could.

Maradona missed several training sessions of the side he coaches, and failed for a third time to appear before a disciplinary tribunal of the Argentine Soccer Federation.

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OBSERVER

Contempt of Congress

By Russell Baker

NEW YORK — There is an old Washington story about President Lyndon Johnson furious with Senator Frank Church of Idaho for opposing him on Vietnam. "Who've you been talking to on this?" Johnson asks Church. Church says Walter Lippmann, the magisterial newspaper columnist. "Next time you want a dam in Idaho," Johnson tells Church, "ask Walter Lippmann for it."

Probably never happened. Smart as he was about Congress, LBJ wasn't likely to treat one of its princes cruelly for the small satisfaction of uttering a crushing witicism. Congress was different then. Now it is Congress itself that treats Congress with contempt.

For example, it is transferring its historic power of the purse to the White House where Lyndon Johnsons of the future can use it to extract obedience from any Frank Churches checky enough to vex their presidents.

This will be the result of the so-called line-item-veto bill, which was quickly whooped through the House by Speaker Gingrich's zealots and passed in the Senate with the connivance of both parties.

"Historic" is not an abused word for describing this remarkable abdication of Congressional power. It was rooted in the British Parliament's money quarrel with kings more than 350 years ago. Parliament prevailed, King Charles was executed and the power of the purse was lodged ever afterward in Parliament.

A century and a half later the makers of the Constitution adapted it by giving Congress the power to authorize taxes and spending. Messrs. Gingrich and Dole have just chucked a lot of history overboard.

The explanation lies in the

abovementioned self-loathing that now afflicts Congress. Congressional members have lately taken to whining about their weakness. They are simply too weak-kneed, they say, to resist doling out federal gravy.

A constitutional amendment was proposed. Messrs. Gingrich and Dole peddled it like hot gospel. Surely, surely these wretched sinful wretches who wanted — sincerely wanted — to mend their ways, surely they could control their evil habit if only it were proscribed by that sacred document, the Constitution.

The president, a Democrat, wanted it. What president would not want such a whip to keep the herd in line. A Democratic president's wanting it assured the Republicans enough Democratic votes to pass it, even though its effect is to increase President Clinton's power.

The evidence suggests that the new breed of Republicans has little use for Congress but a rising passion for presidential power. The rise of Newt Gingrich began with his long and successful effort to discredit Congress as ineffectual and corrupt.

The speaker has made contempt for Congress so respectable that Congress now glories in despising itself for being too flabby to deal with a budget deficit. It would be naive to ask these people why they don't simply quit kowtowing to their many publics and behave honorably by saying "No" to wasteful spending. The answer — "We would be defeated at the next election, stupid" — is too obvious.

You might then ask, "But why do you want to be re-elected to an institution you hold in contempt?"

Don't be dense. Unless people with contempt for the place stay in power, who will keep it dirty?

New York Times Service

Hermitage Displays Looted Art Treasures

By Steven Erlanger
New York Times Service

ST. PETERSBURG — With the opening of a much-anticipated exhibition of previously secret French paintings Wednesday at the State Hermitage Museum, Russia took a major leap in its coquettish dance with honesty about art looted from Nazi Germany at the end of the war.

The lavishly mounted exhibition, in the Hermitage's Nikolayevsky Hall, contains 74 paintings, nearly all Impressionist or Postimpressionist, most of them marvelous and all of them formerly hidden in the museum's vaults by order of successive Moscow governments after the Soviet Army seized them from a devastated Nazi Germany.

Suddenly visible, seeming well preserved and vivid, are treasures like Degas's "Place de la Concorde"; van Gogh's eerie "White House at Night," with its ghostly pedestrian and many-haloed moon, one of his last paintings; 15 Renoirs, including "In the Garden" and "Man on the Stair," and other fine works of Gauguin, Delacroix, Matisse, Monet, Pissarro, Toulouse-Lautrec and others.

"Hidden Treasures Revealed," open through Oct. 29, provides a sharp contrast to the exhibition of 63 pieces of looted art at the State Pushkin Museum in Moscow, which opened a month ago.

At the Pushkin, most of the art came from German museums and was well known to scholars, even if its postwar fate had been unclear. But at the Hermitage, all but one of the 74 paintings came from private German collections and most have not been seen in public for more than 70 years; many have never been exhibited. Only two have previously been reproduced in color.

While the Pushkin has a hodgepodge of periods and styles from the 14th to the 19th centuries, providing neither a catalogue nor even a list of the art, the Hermitage show is coherent, intelligently presented with all the semi-scholarly paraphernalia of a modern museum, including a lavish catalogue and a high percentage of very fine art.

The only drawback is that for security reasons, all the paintings are mounted behind glass.

While the Pushkin and its longtime conservative director, Irina A. Antonova, have taken a defensive and political tone, calling their show "Twice Saved" and dedicating it to the Soviet victory over Nazism, the Hermitage and its smooth, savvy director, Mikhail B. Piotrovsky, have done all they can to play down politics.

"Today we would prefer to speak more about art and less about politics," Piotrovsky said at a press conference. "Problems of ownership and restitution will be solved by the state and the politicians."

The Hermitage has also been shrewd about commerce. While the Pushkin gave the Germans



Van Gogh's "Madame Trabuck," long hidden.

little notice of the exhibition, the Hermitage has worked for months, not only to let the Germans and any heirs of the original owners know about this exhibition, but also to market it.

The Hermitage, which needs money for restoration, has been aided by Paul Gottlieb, the president and publisher of Harry N. Abrams Inc., the New York art publisher that printed its catalogue in paperback in Russian (\$20.62) and in hard cover in English (\$51.55).

There are other differences. While the English catalogue speaks coyly of "Hidden Treasures Revealed: Impressionist masterpieces and other important French paintings preserved by the State Hermitage Museum," the Russian is blunter: "Unknown Treasures: French paintings of the 19th-20th centuries from private German collections."

Gottlieb said Wednesday that he was involved from the beginning, urging Piotrovsky to expand the show, extend its run and try to attract the world interest the art deserves.

He has been a sort of press agent for the exhibition and helped auction the first serial rights to reproduce some of the art, to Vanity Fair magazine.

In return, Abrams shares in the income, Gottlieb said, preferring to dodge the question of why anyone should profit from stolen art. "My agreement is with the museum," he said.

The real ghosts at this exhibition are the German collectors, one of whom, a producer of steam boilers named Otto Krebs, owned 56 of the 74 paintings on exhibit.

Krebs, who bought what he liked, had a superb eye and no taste for publicity. Born in Wiesbaden in 1873, he hung his pictures in his large house in a little village named Holzendorf, near Weimar. He did not exhibit them, display them or have them photographed.

Mostly bought in the 1920s, his collection was considered "degenerate art" by the Nazis, who loved the same sort of Socialist Realism as the Soviet Communists. "So he had every reason to keep the secret and collected no more," said Albert Kostenevich, the Hermitage's chief researcher, who wrote the catalogue.

Krebs died in 1941, leaving his money to a cancer-research institute. It seems he has no direct heirs, but the institute is reported to be suing for the collection. Piotrovsky, suddenly shy, said that "levels of secrecy still exist," and that the complete list of the museum's holdings of trophy art could not yet be revealed.

The Russian point of view is that Germany lost the war after looting many thousands of art treasures from the Soviet Union, which won the war and looted in return. Russia wants to exchange stolen cultural treasures, but a lot of what the Nazis took is now in private hands. The Germans estimate about 500,000 stolen artworks, books and archives remain in Russia, while the Russians say about the same number were looted by the Nazis, including the fabled "amber room" in Catherine the Great's summer palace outside St. Petersburg.

But nationalism is growing in Russia, and many people think Moscow has already made too many concessions to the West. The Russian Parliament has drafted a law that would nationalize most of the trophy art. While negotiations go on fitfully, so will the exhibitions.

In September, the Pushkin will display more German drawings, believed to be what remains of the famous collection of Franz Koenigs, a Rotterdam banker. Then early in 1996, the Pushkin will finally display Schliemann's Treasure, sometimes known as Priam's Gold, which was also looted from Berlin. The collection predates the Homeric period and consists of some 260 catalogued pieces from 17 digs at Troy by Heinrich Schliemann from 1873 to 1890.

As an indication of the rivalry between the two museums, the Hermitage plans to exhibit its smaller, bronze part of the Schliemann trove. "It's not gold," Piotrovsky sniffed Wednesday, "but it may be more interesting."

PEOPLE

For Josephine Baker, A Home-State Tribute

Josephine Baker, who thrilled Europe with exotic dancing and sultry songs in the 1920s and '30s, has joined Harry Truman and Mark Twain in the Hall of Famous Missourians in Jefferson City. A bronze bust was unveiled in a Statehouse ceremony attended by some relatives, including Richard Martin Jr., a nephew and founder of the Children's Performing Arts Theater in St. Louis.

Mum was the word when it came to the man who created "Forrest Gump," but wait! Winston Groom, who wrote "Forrest Gump," was not mentioned at the Academy Awards ceremony, while the film based on his novel was raking in the statuettes. Groom told the Mobile (Alabama) Press Register he was at work on the sequel — which might end by having good ol' Forrest show up at the Oscar ceremony.

The celebrity divorce lawyer Marvin Mitchellson has lost an appeal of his 1993 conviction of failing to report nearly \$2 million in income on his federal tax returns. In a unanimous ruling, the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals said the trial judge properly allowed evidence of Mitchellson's spending habits, financial difficulties and tax history. Mitchellson, convicted of failing to report income from 1983 to 1986, was sentenced to 30 months in prison and ordered to pay \$2.1 million in restitution. Mitchellson gained celebrity by representing Michelle Triola in her "palimony" suit against Lee Marvin.

The actor James Caan and his wife, Ingrid Hajek Caan, are calling it quits after more than four years of marriage. It was the third marriage for Caan, 55, and the second for his 34-year-old wife. They have a 3-year-old son.

WEATHER

Forecast for Saturday through Monday, as provided by Accu-Weather.

Europe	Today	High	Low	Tomorrow	High	Low	W
Algeria	18-24	11-22	11-22	12-15	11-15	11-15	W
Austria	9-14	1-8	1-8	1-8	1-8	1-8	W
Belgium	9-14	1-8	1-8	1-8	1-8	1-8	W
Denmark	12-15	4-10	4-10	1-8	1-8	1-8	W
France	14-17	7-12	7-12	1-8	1-8	1-8	W
Germany	12-15	4-10	4-10	1-8	1-8	1-8	W
Greece	18-24	11-22	11-22	12-15	11-15	11-15	W
Ireland	12-15	4-10	4-10	1-8	1-8	1-8	W
Italy	14-17	7-12	7-12	1-8	1-8	1-8	W
Japan	18-24	11-22	11-22	12-15	11-15	11-15	W
Spain	18-24	11-22	11-22	12-15	11-15	11-15	W
Sweden	12-15	4-10	4-10	1-8	1-8	1-8	W
Switzerland	12-15	4-10	4-10	1-8	1-8	1-8	W
U.K.	12-15	4-10	4-10	1-8	1-8	1-8	W
U.S.	12-15	4-10	4-10	1-8	1-8	1-8	W
Canada	12-15	4-10	4-10	1-8	1-8	1-8	W
South America	12-15	4-10	4-10	1-8	1-8	1-8	W
Africa	12-15	4-10	4-10	1-8	1-8	1-8	W
Oceania	12-15	4-10	4-10	1-8	1-8	1-8	W

North America	Today	High	Low	Tomorrow	High	Low	W
Alaska	18-24	11-22	11-22	12-15	11-15	11-15	W
Canada	12-15	4-10	4-10	1-8	1-8	1-8	W
U.S.	12-15	4-10	4-10	1-8	1-8	1-8	W
South America	12-15	4-10	4-10	1-8	1-8	1-8	W
Africa	12-15	4-10	4-10	1-8	1-8	1-8	W
Oceania	12-15	4-10	4-10	1-8	1-8	1-8	W

Asia	Today	High	Low	Tomorrow	High	Low	W
Algeria	18-24	11-22	11-22	12-15	11-15	11-15	W
Austria	9-14	1-8	1-8	1-8	1-8	1-8	W
Belgium	9-14	1-8	1-8	1-8	1-8	1-8	W
Denmark	12-15	4-10	4-10	1-8	1-8	1-8	W
France	14-17	7-12	7-12	1-8	1-8	1-8	W
Germany	12-15	4-10	4-10	1-8	1-8	1-8	W
Greece	18-24	11-22	11-22	12-15	11-15	11-15	W
Ireland	12-15	4-10	4-10	1-8	1-8	1-8	W
Italy	14-17	7-12	7-12	1-8	1-8	1-8	W
Japan	18-24	11-22	11-22	12-15	11-15	11-15	W
Spain	18-24	11-22	11-22	12-15	11-15	11-15	W
Sweden	12-15	4-10	4-10	1-8	1-8	1-8	W
Switzerland	12-15	4-10	4-10	1-8	1-8	1-8	W
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U.S.	12-15	4-10	4-10	1-8	1-8	1-8	W
Canada	12-15	4-10	4-10	1-8	1-8	1-8	W
South America	12-15	4-10	4-10	1-8	1-8	1-8	W
Africa	12-15	4-10	4-10	1-8	1-8	1-8	W
Oceania	12-15	4-10	4-10	1-8	1-8	1-8	W

Latin America	Today	High	Low	Tomorrow	High	Low	W
Algeria	18-24	11-22	11-22	12-15	11-15	11-15	W
Austria	9-14	1-8	1-8	1-8	1-8	1-8	W
Belgium	9-14	1-8	1-8	1-8	1-8	1-8	W
Denmark	12-15	4-10	4-10	1-8	1-8	1-8	W
France	14-17	7-12	7-12	1-8	1-8	1-8	W
Germany	12-15	4-10	4-10	1-8	1-8	1-8	W
Greece	18-24	11-22	11-22	12-15	11-15	11-15	W
Ireland	12-15	4-10	4-10	1-8	1-8	1-8	W
Italy	14-17	7-12	7-12	1-8	1-8	1-8	W
Japan	18-24	11-22	11-22	12-15	11-15	11-15	W
Spain	18-24	11-22	11-22	12-15	11-15	11-15	W
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U.K.	12-15	4-10	4-10	1-8	1-8	1-8	W
U.S.	12-15	4-10	4-10	1-8	1-8	1-8	W
Canada	12-15	4-10	4-10	1-8	1-8	1-8	W
South America	12-15	4-10	4-10	1-8	1-8	1-8	W
Africa	12-15	4-10	4-10	1-8	1-8	1-8	W
Oceania	12-15	4-10	4-10	1-8	1-8	1-8	W

North America	Today	High	Low	Tomorrow	High	Low	W
Alaska	18-24	11-22	11-22	12-15	11-15	11-15	W
Canada	12-15	4-10	4-10	1-8	1-8	1-8	W
U.S.	12-15	4-10	4-10	1-8	1-8	1-8	W
South America	12-15	4-10	4-10	1-8	1-8	1-8	W
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Oceania	12-15	4-10	4-10	1-8	1-8	1-8	W

Europe	Today	High	Low	Tomorrow	High	Low	W
Algeria	18-24	11-22	11-22	12-15	11-15	11-15	W
Austria	9-14	1-8	1-8	1-8	1-8	1-8	W
Belgium	9-14	1-8	1-8	1-8	1-8	1-8	W
Denmark	12-15	4-10	4-10	1-8	1-8	1-8	W
France	14-17	7-12	7-12	1-8	1-8	1-8	W
Germany	12-15	4-10	4-10	1-8	1-8	1-8	W
Greece	18-24	11-22	11-22	12-15	11-15	11-15	W
Ireland	12-15	4-10	4-10	1-8	1-8	1-8	W
Italy	14-17	7-12	7-12	1-8	1-8	1-8	W
Japan	18-24	11-22	11-22	12-15	11-15	11-15	W
Spain	18-24	11-22	11-22	12-15	11-15	11-15	W
Sweden	12-15	4-10	4-10	1-8	1-8	1-8	W
Switzerland	12-15	4-10	4-10	1-8	1-8	1-8	W
U.K.	12-15	4-10	4-10	1-8	1-8	1-8	W
U.S.	12-15	4-10	4-10	1-8	1-8	1-8	W
Canada	12-15	4-10	4-10	1-8	1-8	1-8	W
South America	12-15	4-10	4-10	1-8	1-8	1-8	W
Africa	12-15	4-10	4-10	1-8	1-8	1-8	W
Oceania	12-15	4-10	4-10	1-8	1-8	1-8	W

State	State	Last	Comments
Open	30/3	10:27 lifts open, weak powder	
Open	Pctd	19/3	35-40 lifts open, best on open
Open	Pctd	28/3	19-23 lifts open, fresh snow
Open	Pctd	29/3	70-78 lifts open, new powder
Open	Var	29/3	All 15 lifts open, fresh snow
Open	Var	26/3	All 18 lifts open, good skiing
Open	Spring	N/A	All lifts and pistes open
Open	Pctd	30/3	14: 16 lifts open, excellent snow
Open	Pctd	30/3	30-43 lifts open, high winds
Open	Pctd	30/3	38-48 lifts open, excellent snow
Open	Pctd	29/3	All 12 lifts open, stormy weather
Open	Pctd	29/3	29 lifts open, excellent snow
Open	Pctd	28/3	Superior snow but weak powder
Open	Pctd	29/3	15-33 lifts closed by wind
Open	Pctd	29/3	22-25 lifts closed, storms predicted
Open	Pctd	29/3	72-78 lifts, superb conditions
Open	Pctd	29/3	All 6 lifts open, great skiing
Open	Pctd	29/3	37-40 lifts open, great skiing
Open	Pctd	27/3	All lifts open, good snow cover
Open	Pctd	27/3	All 50 lifts open, good snow
Open	Pctd	27/3	All 20 lifts open, good skiing
Open	Pctd	27/3	All 10 lifts open, good skiing
Open	Pctd	27/3	All 25 lifts open, great skiing
Upper slopes, lifts, pistes, Monte Rosa great			
Arc-Avalanche			
Reports supplied by the Ski Clubs of Great Britain			